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TELEGRAMS.

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President Grant to Visit the Sovereigns with an Iron-Clad Fleet.

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EUROPE.

A Singular Rumor on the Continent—President Grant to Visit the Great Sovereigns—The Yacht Sappho—Challenge to the World.

LONDON, Jan. 8.—A story has been extensively published on the Continent lately to the effect that President GRANT will soon visit the Sovereigns of Europe, and that he will make the transatlantic voyage accompanied by a fleet of iron-clads....The *Saturday Review* of to-day, in an article on American finances, thinks that the chances are decidedly against the repudiation of the national debt on the part of the United States, because its payment is easy and profitable....Mr. WILLIAM DOUGLAS has issued a challenge to the world to race his yacht *Sappho* (American) to Sandy Hook on the 4th of July next.

Sentence of Paris Editors—Pardon of Rochefort—Resignation of French Ambassadors.

PARIS, Jan. 8.—The trial of the editors of the *Rappel* (irreconcilable newspaper) for a violation of the law relating to the public Press, has been brought to an end. CHARLES HUGO and FELIX PYAT, the chief editors, were sentenced to four months' imprisonment and to pay a fine of 1,000 francs each. The latter gentleman was also sentenced additionally to four months' imprisonment and 1,000 francs fine for having distributed among the soldiers in the barracks an article calculated to foment insurrection....Prime Minister OLLIVIER recently petitioned the Emperor for the pardon of the miners who had been sentenced to various terms of imprisonment for participation in the riots at Aubin some time ago. The Emperor has complied, and to-day the prisoners were set at liberty.....It is announced to-day on the best authority that the French Ambassadors at London and Berlin have resigned.....It is reported to-day that the Ministry will propose a reduction in the contingent force of from 75,000 to 100,000 men....M. OLLIVIER to-day received the Magistracy of Paris in a body.... Yesterday there was an important reunion of the Ministers at the Ministry of Justice, and there was still another meeting to-day under the Presidency of the Emperor....It is said that a circular will be sent by the new Minister of the Interior to the Prefects of all the Departments, making known the policy of the Government. The documents, it is further said, are very liberal in tone.

The Question of Infallibility—A Compromise Effected at Rome—Father Hyacinthe and the Ecumenical Council.

PARIS, Jan. 8.—The *Memorial Diplomatique* asserts that a compromise has been arranged on the question of the infallibility of the Pope. Infallibility will be affirmed, but dissent from the article will be indulged....The correspondent of the *Temps*, writing from Rome, ridicules the story extensively prevailing that Père HYACINTHE, upon appealing to the Ecumenical Council, was not heard nor recognized.

MADRID, Jan. 8.—Nothing has yet been settled concerning the Ministry. There is much political agitation throughout the country.

HAYTI.

Capture of Port-au-Prince Confirmed—Fate of Salnave Unknown.

HAVANA, Jan. 8.—The capture of Port-au-Prince by the Haytian insurgents is fully confirmed. The crew of the English war steamer *Defence* aided in extinguishing the conflagration. The whereabouts and fate of SALNAVE are unknown.

MEXICO.

Mr. Seward's Movements—Death of a Prominent Politician—Great Freshets—Terrible Loss of Life—Fears of a General Revolution.

HAVANA, Jan. 8.—The regular mail steamer from Vera Cruz arrived here to-day, bringing advices from the City of Mexico to the 1st inst.... Governor SEWARD was still at the Capital, but expected to leave for Vera Cruz on the 10th.... Señor ZARCO, the editor of the *Siglo*, and a prominent politician, is dead. The Congress had appropriated $50,000 for the relief of his family.... Great freshets have occurred in the province of Chiapa. The water completely washed away many farms lying along the borders of the rivers, and it was computed that no less than 200 lives were lost....General REGNERA's partisans had invaded and captured Los Libres....General ALATORRE, being unable to suppress the rebellion in Puebla, had resigned his command....The revolution in San Luis Potosi is increasing.....In Puebla the insurgents had captured several towns, defeating the Government troops and capturing and executing General BOCARDO....The estimates of the War Department for the coming year were $7,000,000.....The fears of a general revolution are daily increasing.

CUBA.

Proclamation from General De Rodas—The Fighting Cubans Pronounced "Insurgents in Incendiarism"—Arrival of the Gunboats—Miscellaneous.

HAVANA, Jan. 8.—Captain-General DE RODAS has issued a proclamation, generally complimentary to the behavior of the citizens and army. He says the sickly season has passed without diminishing the strength of the army. The insurgents took the offensive twice and were twice repulsed. The insurrection after that was confined to the mountains. The troops already here were sufficient to subdue the insurgents, and the reason that so many troops were coming from Spain was that their Spanish countrymen desired to spare the sacrifices of Spaniards in Cuba. He adds that the Cubans are not insurgents in war only, but in incendiarism. The civil tribunals were performing their duties as usual, while, owing to the surrenders in the Cinco Villas District, the troops remain without work.

HAVANA, Jan. 7.—The "proclamation" of the Cuban Junta, recently printed here, is now generally considered as a hoax. It is thought the document was invented by the New-York *Cronista* or the Havana *Voz de Cuba*. There are many here, however, who are regularly imposed upon by articles in the *Voz de Cuba*, who believe the proclamation genuine. No confirmation or denial of the truth of the document has yet been received from America. In the meantime it has been telegraphed to various points in the interior of the Island, where it has unquestionably exerted a powerful influence. [NOTE.—The denial was promptly forwarded from this office.—ASSOCIATED PRESS RECORDER].....Fifteen more of the Spanish gunboats arrived from New-York to-day at noon. They were accompanied by the war steamer *Powerro*....The steamship *Susenia* arrived from Hamburg this morning....The municipality of Matanzas has imposed an export duty as follows: On sugar, 10 cents per box, and 30 cents per hogshead; on molasses, 25 cents for Muscovado, and 50 cents for clayed....The *Voz de Cuba*, in a recent editorial, seriously advises the repopulation of the island with Spaniards, and suggests that inducements be held out to the 40,000 Spanish soldiers, who have arrived here to put down the insurrection, to settle permanently in Cuba, and thus exterminate the enemies of Spain....The *Voz de Cuba* to-day publishes a telegram from New-York, stating that the Junta yesterday resolved to hire persons to assassinate the Spanish Minister, the Spanish Consul and the editor of the *Cronista*.

HAVANA, Jan. 8.—The *Prensa* announces the killing of thirty unarmed men in the vicinity of Manzanillo, a few days since, by the insurgents.

THE CASE OF CALDWELL.

Singular Affair in the Court Room at Montreal—Escape of Caldwell—A Reward Offered for His Arrest.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

MONTREAL, Jan. 8.—CALDWELL was, this morning, brought before Judge COUSSOL for examination on the charge brought against him by Minchin. He was discharged owing to the insufficiency of the evidence. Some thirty other charges are pending against him, and the High Constable had a warrant for his arrest on one of these. However, immediately on the Judge pronouncing his discharge, DEVLIN, his counsel, took his arm and walked out of the Court room with him. The door was locked behind them in the face of the High Constable, who was following after them with a warrant for the rearrest of CALDWELL. It was some time before the door could be opened, and when it was, CALDWELL was nowhere to be found. The Government Constables are out in every direction, but up to the present they have found no trace of CALDWELL. The affair has caused considerable excitement. The Judge and the counsel for the prosecution are in a great rage. There is no doubt that DEVLIN and CALDWELL had made complete arrangements beforehand for his escape, and it is hinted that the authorities were not so active as they might have been.

MONTREAL, Jan. 8—Evening.—The Consul-General has offered a reward of $100 for the apprehension of CALDWELL. No clue has yet been discovered as to his whereabouts.

POLITICAL.

Indiana Democratic State Convention—"Straight" Democratic Resolutions—The Fifteenth Amendment.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Jan. 8.—The Democratic Convention convened at the Academy of Music this morning at 10 o'clock. The Convention was called to order by Hon. L. DEVLIN, Chairman of the Central Committee. General M. D. MUNSON, of Crawfordsville, was made temporary Chairman, and a Committee of one from each Congressional District was appointed to select permanent officers, of which Judge JOSEPH E. MCDONALD was Chairman. This Committee subsequently reported the following officers:

General JAMES R. SLACK, of Huntingdon, Chairman; Hon. W. R. RAVENSCROFT, of the Indianapolis *Sentinel*, and L. G. MATTHEWS, of the New-Albany *Ledger*, Secretaries, and one Vice-President from each Congressional District.

The following are the names of the Democratic Central Committee, selected by the delegations of each district:

First District, ——; Second District, John S. Davis; Third District, R. D. Slater; Fourth District, Nathan Raymond; Fifth District, E. E. Alvord; Sixth District, Wm. Mack; Seventh District, E. S. Williams; Eighth District, T. Swinger; Ninth District, John O. Benson; Tenth District, E. W. Brown; Eleventh District, J. D. Early.

A motion was made by a delegate from Tippecanoe County authorizing the Central Committee to select their own Chairman, to be one of their own number, was voted down by a large majority.

A motion then prevailed to proceed to the nomination of candidates for State officers, commencing with Judges of the Supreme Court. Judge JAMES L. WORDEN, of the First Supreme District, was nominated. For Attorney-General, BAYLESS W. HANNA, of Terre Haute, on the first ballot. The following are the resolutions adopted:

Resolved, That the Democracy of Indiana, in delegate Convention assembled, declare that the Federal Union with all the rights and dignity of the several States should be preserved, and to secure that great national blessing the Constitution must be respected and observed, and every approach to centralized despotism defeated, whether attempted by Congress or the Executive; that recent events have more than ever convinced us of the infamous and revolutionary character of the reconstruction measures of Congress, and we denounce these measures as an invasion of the sovereign and sacred rights of the people and of all the States; that the independence of the Supreme Court of the United States is essential to the safety and security of the States and people, and we declare that the measures of Congress having in view the destruction of the powers of that Court to adjudicate on the enactments of Congress is a dangerous evidence of the usurpations of the Legislative over the Judicial departments of the Government; that we are in favor of taxation for the revenue only, and we demand that the burdens of taxation shall be fairly and equally adjusted, and that such an adjustment cannot be made without striking from the statute book the present unjust and odious Tariff laws—a system of taxation based upon favoritism, and which has destroyed the American shipping and commerce, oppressed the people of the great agricultural regions, which compels the many to pay a tribute to the few, and which has built up monopolies, and controls not only every American market, but also the legislation of Congress, and we demand that the particular articles of necessity such as tea, coffee, sugar and salt, shall be placed upon the free list; that we are willing to pay our national debt in strict compliance with the contracts, whether it was made payable in gold or greenbacks; but we are unwilling to do more than that, and we declare that the Five-twenty bonds are payable in greenbacks or their equivalent, and we condemn the policy of the Administration which is squandering millions of money by buying such bonds at a high rate of premium, when the Government had a clear right to redeem them at par; that the bank system constitutes the interest of the bondholders rather than to be abolished, and greenbacks issued in lieu of such bank paper, thus saving millions annually to the people and giving to the whole people instead of the few the benefits of issuing paper currency; that the business interests of the country demand an increased volume of currency, and the burden of the public debt, the high rate of interest and taxation imperatively forbid the contraction of currency in the interests of the bondholders; that the shares of stock in the national banks ought to be subjected to school and municipal taxation on the same conditions as other property; and we demand of our State Legislature that the shares of such banks shall be subjected to equal taxation with other property of the State; that the Bonds of the United States ought to be taxed by Congress for national purposes to such an extent as will substantially equalize the taxation of such bonds with other property subject to local taxation; that we denounce the action of our last Legislature, in attempting to force upon the people the proposed Fifteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, as an palpable violation of our State Constitution, and we solemnly protest against its being accounted for said amendment, and we hereby declare our unalterable opposition to its ratification; that any attempt to regulate the moral ideas, appetites or innocent amusements of the people by legislation is unwise and despotic; that we are opposed to any change in the Naturalization laws of the United States, whereby admission to citizenship will be made more difficult or expensive; and we especially denounce the proposed plan of transferring the naturalization of aliens to the Courts of the United States, and abridging the power of the State Courts in that respect as a hardship, and an expense to the poor and friendless candidate for American citizenship; that we recognize the proposed change in the office of intolerant Know-Nothingism—the twin relict of Radicalism itself.

After the adoption of the resolutions, ex-Senator HENDRICKS and Hon. D. W. VOORHEES made brief speeches. A resolution was adopted authorizing the State Central Committee to select a Chairman from their own members. The Convention adjourned.

While the balloting for officers was progressing, a delegate proposed three cheers for the State of New-York for repealing the vote approving the Fifteenth Amendment, which were given with a will.

A great fight this afternoon will be made on the Chairmanship of the State Central Committee. E. S. ALVORD, of Marion; Colonel TOM DOWLING, of Terre Haute, and General JOHN G. LOVE, of Marion, are the prominent candidates. It is understood that ALVORD is a candidate in opposition to the Talbot clique and in favor of the Brisbit interest.

WASHINGTON.

The Nomination of Mr. Hoar—Stormy Proceedings in Executive Session—Mr. Sumner vs. Mr. Howard—Unauthorized Interview with the President—The Coming State Dinner.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—As time passes and the discussion on the prospects of Mr. HOAR's confirmation are talked about, we get inklings of some of the stormy scenes which took place in the secret meeting of the Senate during the Executive Session, when he was laid on the table. It appears that Mr. SUMNER spoke no less than three times in favor of the confirmation. First he argued the question, then he entreated, and finally he was sarcastic and severe. In the course of his last speech he said that a spirit of revenge and vindictiveness had entered the Chamber. Mr. HOWARD, of Michigan, jumped to his feet and called Mr. SUMNER to order. A scene of confusion ensued. The Vice-President fumbled over the *Manual*. Mr. SUMNER asked Mr. HOWARD to take the words down and have them read, smiling pleasantly at the Michigan Senator at the same time, as much as to say to him, "You will find that I am in order." Finally Mr. HOWARD withdrew his objection, and thus ended the storm.

PENNSYLVANIA POLITICIANS AND THE PRESIDENT.

A delegation from Pennsylvania arrived here to urge the claims of Pennsylvania and Mr. BENJAMIN HARRIS BREWSTER for the possible vacancy in the Attorney-General's office. They had an interview with the President on the subject, and said that they had good reason to believe that Mr. HOAR would not now be confirmed and that the vacancy in the Cabinet alluded to would take place. The President replied that he knew nothing about the subject and the delegation.

THE PRESIDENT'S FIRST STATE DINNER.

The first State dinner of the President will occur on Wednesday, the 12th. There will be present the Cabinet and several leading members of the Senate and House, but none of the Diplomatic Corps, as has been stated, it being impracticable to dine so many at the same time. The dinner to the Diplomatic Corps will follow in the regular order.

NOMINATIONS.

The President will send to the Senate on Monday quite a number of nominations. The contest over the nominations for Oregon has been substantially settled between the contending factions. A new slate was made up to-day, Governor FLANDRAU will probably be retained.

Dispatch to the Associated Press.

THE PROPOSED WORLD'S FAIR.

A public meeting was held to-night at Lincoln Hall in furtherance of the proposed International Fair. Probably 3,000 persons were present, including a number of Congressmen. Addresses were delivered by Dr. Stanberry, Colonel Forney, General Garfield, Thomas B. Bryan, of Chicago, General Howard and Colonel W. H. Philip. Much enthusiasm was manifested. The following resolution was passed:

Resolved, That we will with renewed effort urge upon Congress the passage of the bill now pending in the House for the establishment of the International Industrial Exhibition, believing that it is timely and practicable, and that its consummation will be a great service to the industrial interests of the entire nation, and an incalculable benefit to the whole country.

Encouraging letters were received from the Governors of Kansas, Alabama, Indiana, Wisconsin and Maryland.

WEEKLY CURRENCY STATEMENT.

Amount of fractional currency received from the Printing Bureau of the Treasury Department during the week, $600,000.

Shipments.

To the Assistant Treasurer at New-York	$200,000
To the Assistant Treasurer at Boston	100,000
To the Assistant Treasurer at Philadelphia	75,000
To the Assistant Treasurer at Baltimore	50,000
To the national banks	192,615
Total shipments	$617,615

The Treasurer holds in trust for the national banks as security for circulation.....$345,425,000
Add public deposits.....15,041,000
National bank notes burned during the week.....182,360
Total amount burned to date.....18,907,907
Bank currency issued for bills destroyed during the week.....226,840
Total amount put by the Treasurer.....18,680,067
Balance due for mutilated notes.....212,817
Bank circulation outstanding at this date.....299,680,867
Fractional currency destroyed during the week.....826,000

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and the Maryland Legislature—Opinion of Reverdy Johnson.

BALTIMORE, Md., Jan. 8.—The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company having requested the opinion of Hon. REVERDY JOHNSON upon the question of the constitutionality of the State Legislature, which requires the Company to pay into the Treasury one-fifth of the gross proceeds from passenger travel over the Washington branch of the road, he discusses the matter at some length, and in conclusion says: "I am clearly of opinion that the acts of the Maryland Legislature, above referred to, of 1852, 1854 and 1853, so far as they impose the tax in question, are unconstitutional and void."

Fires in Rochester and Philadelphia—A Dollar Store Burned Out.

ROCHESTER, Jan. 8.—A fire occurred this morning in HEBB & HAZELTINE's flouring mill, in North Water-street, causing damage to the amount of $15,000; insured.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 8.—A fire occurred this morning at No. 713 Chestnut-street, on the second floor, occupied as a packing room of the dollar store on the first floor. The stock is ruined. T. A. WEBB & Co., manufacturers of watches and jewelery, occupied part of the second floor, and suffer considerable damage. The building is not seriously damaged.

Anniversary of the Battle of New-Orleans—Observance in Different Places.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—A banquet was given and a flag raised at the St. Louis Hotel today by the proprietress, Mrs. E. A. POLLARD, in celebration of the anniversary of the battle of New-Orleans. It was the only celebration here.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Jan. 8.—In the Legislature the House to-day passed resolutions honoring the memory of General JACKSON, and in commemoration of the battle of New-Orleans.

Meeting of the Surviving Patriots of the War of 1812 at St. Louis—Pensions Desired.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 8.—The surviving patriots of the war of 1812, residing in this State, met here to-day. Quite a number were present and many sent letters regretting their inability to attend. General RANNEY, of St. Louis, presided. The object of the meeting was to draft a memorial to Congress asking that all surviving soldiers of the war of 1812 be placed on the pension list. This object was accomplished, and the meeting adjourned. The ages of those present ranged from 70 to 91.

RUPERT'S LAND.

A Loan of $350 Forced from the Hudson Bay Company by the Insurgents—An Irish Priest their Chosen Leader.

CHICAGO, Jan. 8.—A letter from St. Boniface, dated Dec. 24, says: On the 22d instant the Winnipeg insurgents forced a loan of $350 sterling from the Hudson Bay Company under protest. Five hundred and fifty pounds of the amount was used to purchase the press and printing material belonging to CALDWELL & Co., from which is to be issued a paper in the interests of the insurgents. Its name will be the *Independent*, and it is to be edited by Major ROBINSON. A young Irish priest named O'DONOHUE is leading the insurgents. He contemplates making a journey to the United States, but whether for raising funds or enlisting Fenians is unknown. A letter from Governor MCTAVISH, dated at Fort Garry, Dec. 25, to the Hudson Bay Company's agent at St. Paul, says that the loan mentioned above was obtained by the insurgents carrying off the Company's safe which contained the amount named. The stolen funds are redeemable at Fort Garry York Factory in exchange on London. He warns Americans against negotiating these notes as they are useless.

Important Railroad Enterprise in Canada—Ottawa, Red River and British Columbia to be United.

OTTAWA, Canada, Jan. 8.—Notice is given in the official gazette that an application will be made to Parliament next session for an act of incorporation for a company to build a railway from Ottawa to Fort Garry, Red River, and thence to the confines of British Columbia; also for the construction of a branch thereof from Fort Garry to the most convenient point in the United States, with power, also, to build steamers and other vessels, and navigate the River Saskatchewan and its branches, and the rivers and lakes traversed by the railway; also that the money credit of the Dominion be extended in aid of such company by granting mortgages on the wild lands of the Crown along the route, in proportion as the work proceeds. The name of the Company will be "The Canadian Pacific Railway and Navigation Company." Application will also be made for authority to narrow the gauge of the branches of the Great Western Railway.

The Pacific Coast—Political Corruption in San Francisco—Mining Matters.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 8.—It is stated that a large sum has been raised by the members of the Ring in the Board of Supervisors and their friends as a lobby fund to prevent legislative action with regard to the municipal affairs of this city....The United States Branch Mint at Carson, Nevada, is ready for operation in every department.... During the week the mining stocks have been moderately active, but closed with a general decline. Alpha, $17; Belcher, $15; Bullion, $10; Choller, $18; Confidence, $35; Crown Point, $12; Empire Mill, $27; Gould & Curry, $61; Hale & Norcross, $154; Imperial, $46; Kentuck, $145; Occidental, $13; Ophir, $14; Overman, $74; Savage, $45; Sierra Nevada, $8; Yellow Jacket, $53. The Empress Mill and Ophir Companies have levied assessments, the former $10 per share and the latter $5 per share.

The Glens Falls Bank Robbers Traced to Albany—Some of the Property Found—Severity of the Weather.

ALBANY, Jan. 8.—THOMAS J. SHAT to-day found in one of our streets an envelope containing the will of HALSEY R. WING, of Glens Falls, partially burned. This will had been deposited in the Glens Falls Bank, and was a part of the property stolen from that bank yesterday. The thieves were undoubtedly in this city to-day....The steamer *Connecticut* reached her dock this morning, from New-York, and will return to-morrow....The weather indicates a close of the river again by Monday....Messrs. CONNAC, MCWILLIAMS and MICHAEL CONWAY will represent the Albany Bricklayers' and Plasterers' Union in the National Convention, to be held at Chicago next week.

The Admission of Colored Men in Theatres—Test Cases in Charleston, S. C.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Jan. 8.—Last night a colored man, for whom a ticket had been purchased by a white man, applied for admission to the dress circle of the Academy of Music and was refused admittance by Manager JOHN T. FORD, of Baltimore, the lessee. Another colored man applied for a ticket for the reserved seats and was refused. This morning warrants were issued upon the affidavits of the two colored men, and Mr. FORD was arrested at the Academy of Music on the charge of violating the State law for carrying out the provisions of the Civil Rights bill. Mr. FORD gave bail to appear at the next term of the Court of General Sessions.

Miscellaneous Telegrams.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 8.—Governor HAIGHT has appointed JACKSON TEMPLE, of this city, as a Judge of the Supreme Court of the State, in the place of Judge SANDERSON, resigned....The Choller Mining Company has declared a dividend of $1 per share, payable on the 15th inst.

POUGHKEEPSIE, Jan. 8.—FLORENCE KELLY, the alleged female swindler, was to-day discharged on a writ of *habeas corpus*. To-night she was escorted to the depot by Rev. Mr. CODY, of Christ Church, who bought her a ticket for Montreal. She left on the 6:30 P. M. train.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, Jan. 8.—This is the coldest day of the season thus far, the thermometer ranging from 16° to 30°.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Jan. 8.—The Supreme Court of Alabama has decided that there has been no property in slaves since 1863; that every judgment given by any of the Courts in Alabama from 1861 to 1865 is null and void, and that all officers of Courts and Legislatures were mere usurpers during that period.

NEW-ORLEANS, Jan. 8.—About 350 Chinese arrived here this morning by way of St. Louis. They leave to-day, by railroad, for Texas.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 7.—The ball of the Twelfth Night Revellers, last night, at the Opera House, was the most elegant of the season.

The Right of Conductors to Eject Passengers.

Some time in February last HENRY CAMPBELL was put off a train on the Erie Railroad by Conductor JOHN GARRISON for not showing a proper ticket and refusing to pay his fare. CAMPBELL charges the conductor and a man named BERRYSON with assault and battery in so ejecting him. The case was tried in Paterson, N. J., on Friday. In charging the jury Judge BEASLY ruled that as a matter of law no one has a right to ride in railway car without paying fare, nor has any one who does not not intend to pay, a right to enter the car. If upon demand by the proper officer the passenger refused to pay or show a proper ticket, it was that officer's right to eject him, using only necessary force to do so, and that in such case no subsequent offer of money or a ticket entitles him to a right of passage. If the conductor has reason to suspect that a passenger desires to palm off upon him a worthless ticket, it is his duty to eject him, while if a passenger on the other hand has innocently made such a mistake, he will upon the discovery of that fact convey to satisfy the conductor of the honesty of his intentions. The onus in such case is with the passenger, who, if he fail or neglect to relieve the conductor of suspicions, is liable.

The jury retired on Friday afternoon, and after remaining out all night came in shortly before noon yesterday, and announcing themselves unable to agree on a verdict, were discharged. Messrs. HARRISON and BERRYSON were then released on their own recognizances in the sum of $800 each, to appear at the next term of Court.

The total exports of coal from the several ports of Great Britain during last November were 764,971 tons, or an increase of 80,158 tons over the exports of November, 1868. The exports during the eleven months ending in November show a falling off as compared with the exports during the same period of 1868, the total reaching 6,805,460 tons this year, and 9,244,395 last year.

AFFAIRS IN ENGLAND.

Christmas Eve—Questions of the Day—Land in Ireland—Mr. Bright—Trade Topics—Pauperism and Demoralization—Co-operation.

From Our Own Correspondent.

LONDON, Friday, Dec. 24, 1869.

I write on the eve of the great festival of Christendom, celebrated in Rome this year as it has not been for centuries, celebrated here in the usual fashion of much eating, much drinking and a great effort to be jolly. It is a very hard Winter. There have been heavy gales, deep snows in the north, great floods in the midland and west. Some towns on the Severn have been flooded to their second stories. Score thousands of people must have been driven from their dwellings. Large tracts on the Thames are under water. The days are short and dark, and though the cold is not severe, it is more uncomfortable than if it were.

The provision dealers of all kinds make a great display the week before Christmas, and crowds of people in every town and village go out in the evening to see the shows of prize beef, mutton and poultry, hung with garlands of evergreens, the holly and the mistletoe, and brilliantly illuminated. The very paupers in and out of the workhouses expect to dine one day in the year on roast beef and plum pudding. At this season, all who have give, all who want receive. The cost of Christmas is beyond computation; and thousands of small incomes are eked out with gifts. The postman, the turncock, the newsboy, servants, the waits, whoever stands in a certain relation to you, expects and receives the yearly gratuity. The banker gives his clerks fifty pounds (apiece); the householder of the most moderate income needs to have his pocket full of half crowns and shillings.

I do not say it is a bad thing on the whole; but one could dispense with the waits—the Advent serenades at 4 o'clock in the morning, by which you are robbed of your rest, and expected to pay for it. London and all England become a saturnalia of beggary on boxing day. At night there is a saturnalia of another sort at the theatres and other places of amusement. Why I should contribute to pay the salaries of the postman or the turncock, when I have paid full postage and water rates, I do not see; and I would prefer some choice in the recipients of my Christmas gifts. Under this routine system the gift becomes the payment of a debt. Our New Year's fashion was formerly much nicer. In Paris the gifts are enacted on New Year's, and so exacted that there is a good deal of grumbling.

QUESTIONS OF THE DAY.

The news is not of a very startling character. You can see that by the number of newspaper columns every day devoted to Rome and Paris. And four-fifths written of both are the speculations of ingenious gentlemen, who write because that is what they are for. In Ireland troops are moving about with as much activity as if an insurrection was expected to break out next week. Landlords and agents are warned, and either go about guarded by the Police, or leave the country. With this agrarian terrorism the Government can do nothing. Men cannot be discovered, much less arrested; they cannot be brought to trial, much less convicted. There is far less crime in Ireland than in England; but there is war against certain phases of landlordism. The people have come to a settled conviction that they have a right to the soil at some rate, and they will not be driven from it. If Mr. GLADSTONE will give them that, then the English Parliament may govern Ireland a little longer. If he should in any way fail to do it, the whole country will be for repeal. The Imperial sovereignty may remain, but Ireland will demand that Irishmen shall henceforth make laws for Ireland. This O'DONOGHUE has written to the Times that Parliament now expresses public opinion as it never did before, and that he is satisfied that there is at last the earnest desire to do the best that can be done for Ireland. And I have no doubt that a great effort will be made to pass a just and satisfactory Land Bill at the coming session. The success of the Liberal Party—perhaps the peace and integrity of the Empire—depend upon it. All other measures must wait for this—yet who of us expected two years ago that the one thing to be done now was to pass a Tenant Rights bill for Ireland; first disestablish the Church, then confiscate the land; undoing so much of the work of past centuries. The Church Establishment has been confessed a wrong, and done away with. The Land laws are confessed to be criminal and outrageous, and are also to be done away with. What next? With so much of the promised justice Ireland may be satisfied and willing to help England to something for herself. A clear majority of the people of England and Scotland, if they could be polled to-morrow, would vote for the disestablishment of both the national Churches. There is a growing demand for something like free trade in land. The need of a more thorough educational system is deeply felt. It is probable that the next session will give us that doubtful boon, the ballot. The consciences of the nation is rising against the all but universal corruption and coercion in elections. It has been too barefaced and scandalous. Parliament has never been elected by the people. The great nobles and landed proprietors have sent whom they chose; moneyed men, interested or ambitious, have bought the numerous seats in open market. A brewer, like GUINESS, of Dublin, spends $12,500 in a single election. Even in the most popular and least bribable boroughs, if such there be, there are no real nominations. A man from the furthest part of the Kingdom, whom the electors never heard of, comes forward, proposes himself as a candidate, hires a committee, public houses and all the machinery to secure his election. The astonishing thing is that with such means they get a Parliament so sensible, so patriotic, and so free from even the suspicion of corruption. It comes, I suppose, of the high moral tone of "young Lords and elderly scapegraces." The young Lords are independent, and have political reputations to make and ancestral honors to keep untarnished. Noblesse oblige—they will be Peers in time, and, though careless or perverse, are not likely to be corrupt. How could a young noble in the Commons do a dishonorable act, and then meet the Lady Emily? As for the "elderly scapegrace," he is too rich to be bribed, too vain to act dishonestly, and, as he has bought his seat in the House to please his wife and daughters, he is bound under the heaviest penalties to be an upright legislator. However men get elected, once in the House they cannot transgress its rules of conduct. In *esprit de corps* must govern them. If they could get away from that, there is the Press and the nation. A man known to pay money for votes is none the worse for it yet, though the law is against him, and public opinion soon will be; but the member of Parliament known to sell his vote for money would be hooted out of the country. Yet it is not so long since Government majorities upon important divisions were bought and paid for in the most direct way by orders on the Treasury. I believe the unions of Scotland and Ireland to England were both operations of this character, paid for in solid cash.

LAND IN IRELAND.

It is not to be disguised that in dealing with the land question in Ireland Parliament has a task of great difficulty. Abstract justice is impossible. And if the confiscated lands of Ireland could be restored to their owners, what is to be done with those of Great Britain? Here is a case, as put by Sir G. GREY, which illustrates the difficulty:

"In 1570, Queen ELIZABETH granted to the Earl of ESSEX the territory of Farney, 40,000 acres in extent. The property thus granted had previous Irish owners; it was not part of a desert island, but had possessors and occupiers who doubtless regarded their own rights as sacred. Armed force was necessary to carry out the donation of the English Sovereign. Not the smallest portion of land was reserved, either for the chiefs or people who occupied it. It was an act of pure force, and the successful enterprise conferred the vacant land. In 1866 the estate realized a yearly rental of $300. Since that time the land has been cultivated by the conquered race, the rents have been drawn and spent by the descendants and representatives of the victors. They had not originally the smallest natural claim or right to the soil; they had never during their possession of it added in its cultivation; they hardly ever visited it. The people as it were strangers to them; those people who were the owners of the soil—the Celt in its purity. Of these people the writer goes on to say that their labor and energy raised the amount of the yearly rent in 1841 from $300 to $46,300 per annum, and their own numbers had increased to 44,307 souls. Yet during all that number of years, while these toiling thousands were creating wealth almost fabulous in amount for a foreign landlord and were ever and ever adding to the value of his capital in land, but the barest subsistence was left to them—they were without the power of legislation or means of removing the evils of their condition."

Now, the naked justice of such a case as this—and similar cases cover nearly the whole country—might be the restoration of the land to the descendants of its owners, and the payment to them of all the rents exacted during these centuries, principal and interest. The difference between this and "security of tenure"—the privilege of continuing to pay rent—may be the measure of the difference between what the Irish people will get and what we might consider their rights if they lived on some other planet.

MR. BRIGHT.

Shortly after New Year's Mr. BRIGHT will break his long silence, and then we shall know more of what the Government believes it can accomplish. About the 10th of January Mr. BRIGHT and his fellow-members from Birmingham will address their constituents in the Town Hall. If it is possible to secure a ticket I shall be there to see and hear. Mr. BRIGHT, we may be sure, goes further than the furthest, or pulls harder than the hardest in the Government harness, when some hang back, or when it will not do to kick out of traces. He believes in the people owning the land on which they live. He would sweep away every obstacle to the exercise of the first of rights—the ownership of the soil.

TRADE TOPICS.

Mr. ODGER, the workingman, is vigorously at work to get elected to the seat lately vacated by Mr. LAYARD, in Southwark. Three times has he tried the experiment of attempting to get elected as the first workingman's representative, and each time he has been obliged to stand aside for higher caste candidates. He tried at Chelsea, but Sir HENRY HOARE, the banker, and Sir C. WENTWORTH DILKE, of the *Athenæum*, wanted seats, and he was induced to refer his claims to honorable gentlemen, and was set aside. They have tried to get the spokesman of the fierce Democracy to consent to another reference, or a party balloting in Southwark, but he has had enough. Run he will at all hazards, and I see that money is coming in to his Committee to carry on the war. Mr. ODGER is one of the most intelligent of the Reform Leaguers, and ought to be in the House. The Trades' Unions would have in him a thoroughgoing representative. To this extent he is a Protectionist: He talks of reciprocity, and says the practice of free trade requires investigation!

The *Saturday Review*, in its comments on a speech by Lord JOHN MANNERS, admits that the battle must be fought over again, for—

"Here we have protection beginning to show itself once more rampant in England, while it holds undisputed sway in the United States and in almost every English colony, and is pressing hard for a victory in France. *England still stands alone as a free-trading country.* Why should the workingmen of England be wiser than the workingmen in Australia or America or Northern France?"

It required all the audacity of the *Saturday* to ask such a question. The *Spectator* treats the matter with scorn, and says, "Brother Jonathan gets the better of us with his high duties only in the sense in which the Hindoo who commits suicide, because an Englishman insults him, gets the better of the Englishman."

But one little fact goes further with English tradesmen than ever so much clever logic. When Lord J. MANNERS, speaking at Leicester, whose inhabitants are largely engaged in the manufacture of hosiery, mentioned that two shops had lately been opened there with stocks of German hosiery, he gave them a fact which they could appreciate. A speaker in South London, a few nights ago, said that in the midst of the present dearth of labor in the metropolis, the large match manufacturers were having the bulk of their work done on the Continent. English workmen, when they demanded higher wages, were constantly threatened with having their work sent across the Channel. Every trade is injured, and even the poor woodsplitter has come to grief, for the remorseless foreigner sends over shiploads of kindling wood all nicely put up in penny bundles. The importation of carpenters' work has more than doubled the last ten years. England is wasting with emigration, and America is boasting the increase of her manufactures.

PAUPERISM AND DEMORALIZATION.

With the lack of work in any districts comes pauperism and demoralization. Mr. W. H. SMITH, M. P. for Westminster, said a few days ago at a meeting for the organization of charities:

"The people had gradually drifted lower and lower, until they had come to look upon charity almost as a right, and they should be raised from this constant dependence, this close connection, and that, too, without shame, with pauperism. It was a terrible thing to see the people so dependent, and though it could not be expected that any organization would put a stop to pauperism, still it would put an end to those inducements which the charitable scattered around for the poor to seem dependent."

The tax and ratepayers of the metropolis have now begun to cry out under the pressure of their burdens. At a crowded meeting in Hanover-square Rooms, on Monday, resolutions were unanimously passed condemnatory of the enormous increase of the poor rates, of the water rate, of the mode of assessing the income tax, and of the proposed payment of the income and assessed taxes in advance. One of the speakers stated that within a not very large radius from the place where the meeting was held, there had been no fewer than fifteen thousand summonses issued against persons who could not pay their taxes.

CO-OPERATION.

Passing up the Haymarket this week I found my way blocked by servants in livery, while a line of carriages was drawn up at the curbstone. As the novelty and gaiety do not usually come to this locality at 3 P. M., I looked about to see what could be the attraction, and found myself standing in front of the Civil Service Co-operative Stores, to which, as the tradesmen are bitterly complaining, ladies drive in their carriages from the suburbs of London. The Civil Service is doing so large a business that new stores on the same system are now being organized on Euston Road for the three learned professions—law, physic and divinity; but it will get the larger part of its patronage from other classes. A clergyman must trade with the members of his congregation; a physician is sure to have various kinds of tradesmen among his patients, whom he will not like to offend; lawyers may be more independent. But if a dozen of these associations do all the retail trade of London, so they may with great advantage to all purchasers, what is to become of this nation of shopkeepers? The tendency is clearly to great houses doing a special business. A tea house, for example, sends its packets all over England; a wine house has hundreds of agents, and so on. But the co-operative societies supply almost everything to their members, of the best quality and at less than cost, dividing among them a small profit charged to non-members. All kinds of trade are undergoing some reorganizing process. The tendency appears to be towards having everything that can be done on the large scale done by Government, either municipal

CURRENT LITERATURE.

SONG—COLD AND QUIET.

BY JEAN INGELOW.

Cold, my dear—cold and quiet,
In their cups on yonder lea,
Cowslips fold the brown bee's diet;
So the moss enfoldeth thee.
"Plant me, plant me, O love, a lily flower—
Plant me where I may see a green tree;
And when the children sleep," she sighed,
"at the dusk hour,
And when the lily blossoms, O come out to me!"

Lost, my dear? Lost? nay, deepest
Love is that which loveth best;
Through the night-time while thou
sleepest,
Still I watch the shrouded east.
Mean time, meet thee my wife that aye liveth.
"Lost?" is not word for such a love as mine;
Love from love next to me a present giveth,
And love itself doth comfort, making pain
divine.

Rest, my dear, rest. Fair showeth
That which was, and not in vain
Sacred have I kept, God knoweth,
Love's last words atween us twain.
"Hold by our past, my only love, my lover;
Fall not, but rise, O love, by loss of me!"
Boughs from our garden, white with bloom
hang over,
Love, now the children slumber, I come
out to thee.

—*Good Words.*

FEATHERS AND SPANGLES.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "EAST LYNNE."

The room was small and bright. Window curtains of crimson cloth shut out the cold and the twilight, quickly gathering over the worn grass, the bare trees of the London square. The fire and the lamp burned clearly; books lined a portion of the walls; an easy-chair stood empty on one side the soft hearth-rug, inviting to repose when the clergyman should have finished his sermon. He had drawn the table near the fire, and was busy with it.

It was a picture of home-comfort and peace, this study: imparting the notion that its owner must be one of those fortunate men who are secure from the frowns of a biting world. The Reverend Septimus Winter liked comfort, and hoped to enjoy a fair share of it to his life's end. He was a tall, good-looking man of thirty-one, hair and eyes dark. Good-looking in so far as that the features were handsome; but they had a somewhat severe expression. The house was still and tranquil. His little boy's voice in laughter broke out occasionally in the nursery above; but Mr. Winter did not count that a disturbance; it was what he, a doting father, liked to hear. Claude Beckett, a neighbor's son, had come in to play with Harry. Mr. Winter wrote on steadily. This was Saturday, and his sermon must be achieved.

In a moment this tranquility became alarmingly interrupted. A pistol was fired off almost—as it seemed—in the very ear of Mr. Winter; it was followed by a shrill cry from Harry. Almost beside himself with terror, apprehending he knew not what calamity, the clergyman started up and rushed from the room. The first sight his eyes caught was that of the two children half-way up the stairs—Master Claude Beckett with a small pistol in his hand. He was a daring gentleman of six, just double Harry's age. Servants were running up the stairs with affrighted faces. Mrs. Winter came out of her bed-room, whiter than death, a baby clasped in her arms.

There was plenty of terror, but no injury; for the pistol had not been charged. When this much was ascertained, and the first agony of fear had subsided, Mr. Winter got at the particulars. The two boys left alone temporarily in the nursery, had strolled into Jack Winter's room, and discovered the pistol; upon which Master Claude Beckett was seized with an irresistible desire to let it off. The bright idea occurred to him that he might combine this pleasure with a fright for the household; and he carried it to the stairs that the report might be better heard. The boy's father was a sportsman; he knew all about it, and his own fingers were strong.

Mr. Winter, a hot man—for clergymen cannot put away their nature any more than other people—went into a passion. Not with Claude Beckett—though he had difficulty in keeping his correcting hands off that young offender—but with his brother Jack. Jack the Scapegrace. For a long while Mr. Winter had hardly borne with him; this was the climax. A pistol! A pistol in his bedroom, when there were children in the house!

"Mr. Jack have had it there this week past," spoke up a maid-servant amidst the general confusion; "he keeps it in a locked-up case, Sir."

"It appears he keeps it where my children can get at it, locked-up or not locked-up," angrily retorted the clergyman, biting his tongue to keep down harder words. And in that moment he knew for certain a fact he had been gradually suspecting: that he had grown to hate Jack.

Master Claude Beckett was conveyed home in disgrace; Harry, screaming enough to frighten the London crows, (not easily frightened, one would imagine,) was consigned to an ignominious bed forthwith; and Mr. Winter went into his wife's chamber. She sat by the fire; a plain, sensible-looking woman, in delicate health, hushing the baby in her arms.

"I am afraid this disgraceful occurrence has frightened you, Emily."

"Well, it did at the time; but I don't mind it now I know the boys are safe," was Mrs. Winter's answer. "The worst was it woke up Florence with a start, and I had but just succeeded in getting her off to sleep."

She pulled the small square of fine flannel off the child's face, and disclosed a delicate little blossom of five or six months old, who looked as if its short days on earth were already numbered.

"It is a great pity she was woke up; sleep is so necessary for her," sighed Mrs. Winter. "The doctor says it is more to her now than food."

Yes, it was a great pity: Mr. Winter echoed the words in his thoughts. His whole heart was set upon the rearing of this frail little girl, Florence; and, man of peace though he was by profession, his will was good just then to have pitched Jack and his pistol into the sea, had the sea been handy for it.

Going back to his study, he shut the door with a bang, drew the easy chair in front of the fire, and sat down in it, leaving his sermon to complete itself. If the worst came to the worst, he could preach an old one. A resolution that had long been seeking an opportunity to get put into practice, grew fixed and firm. He would send Jack away, although it had been the last request of a dying mother that he would watch over her younger brother.

The fire was getting low. As Mr. Winter rose to replenish it, he heard the hall-door open; and Jack came up the stairs, singing softly the refrain of that old disreputable song, "Buffalo Girls." Not perhaps that the song is so particularly disreputable in itself; but the Reverend Mr. Winter, a clergyman and a man of correct habits, regarded all such as most scandalous, when heard within his sacred walls. It was sung so low that he had to hold his breath to distinguish either words or tune; for, to give Jack credit for something, it must be owned that he remembered the sick baby when going up or down stairs.

"Oh, Buffalo girls, won't you come out to-night,
And dance by the light of the moon?"

Open went the study door with a fling; and Jack, arrested in his upward progress, was authoritatively motioned into it. He was a young man of twenty; a pleasing likeness of Mr. Winter. Both of them had the same handsome cast of features and bright brown eyes, but Jack's face bore a milder expression.

There had been some cutting reprimands to Jack before; but never had Mr. Winter attacked him as he did now. Just a sharp short sentence or two, his face white with passion.

"The pistol was not loaded," said Jack, in his pleasant voice. "There was nothing to load it with, either. It couldn't do any harm. Might have killed young Harry! Nonsense, Septimus. What business—if it comes to that—has young Harry to go unlocking the places in my room?"

This was adding insult to injury; and Mr. Winter could have struck his brother in his rage. In his superior age and wisdom, the other seemed no better than a boy to him. What he said he hardly knew; words that at a calmer moment he had certainly never uttered. Jack was told what an unwelcome intruder he had been, nothing but a burden; and was bid to go forth that same night before he was an hour older, and shift for himself for the future.

For a moment Jack stood as one stunned. But of course there could be no appeal against the mandate, even had he felt inclined to make any. The house was his brother's; and he had been, in truth, but an interloper in it.

"Very well, Septimus," he said calmly acquiescent. "I'll just put my things together and send for them when I know where I shall have a ceiling to put them under."

Jack went up stairs, treading softly. It did not take a quarter of an hour to "put his things together." They were transferred into his small portmanteau and the big sea-chest that used to be his mother's—which sea-chest had been devoted (as shabby for Septimus, the clergyman, to take) to sea, as it fell to Jack. Jack packed the things down after the most approved bachelor fashion, and so got back to the sitting-room. There was no notice for the pistol-case, or for all his books; he went down carrying some of them in his hands and stuffing his pockets.

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Twelve years closed. Twelve years! A vast period of time to look forward to; not much to glance back upon, when they present but a wide track of unbroken smoothness, as they did to the retrospect of the Reverend Septimus Winter. He had done nothing but go up and up in prosperity's scale. He had another living added to his rich one; he was an honorary canon of some cathedral or other (and a very great honor it appeared to a man of his turn of mind;) his name stood high with the world, socially and clerically; he was regarded as one of the saintly divines of the day, quite a beacon-light. He fully believed it, and was puffed up with vain-glory.

There had been one care—one intense disappointment—Mr. and Mrs. Winter were childless. The delicate little blossom, Florence, had faded soon, and strong, troublesome, indulged Harry a couple of years afterwards. How keen the grief to Mr. Winter had been, he alone knew; how bitter the disappointment at finding, as time went on, that his wife had no more children, he would have been ashamed to tell of. He had got over it all now; had ceased almost to regret it; his affections were set on the substantial good of the world and on the ambition growing rife and more rife within him. Men—and women too—must possess an object in life. Mr. Winter preached from his pulpit the desirability of that object being Heaven; Heaven alone; but he had not made it his yet. He thought the bishopric he coveted was advancing nearer, and his heart glowed within him.

And Jack? Jack had never been seen by Mr. and Mrs. Winter, scarcely been heard of, since the Saturday night that he kissed the baby's hand in farewell (fearing to wake her if he kissed her face,) and went out with his books and his pistol. On the Monday a porter brought a barrow for the sea chest and portmanteau. Mr. Winter was out at the time, or he might have asked where they were to be taken to; or he might not. In the elation of heart caused by the riddance of his house from so undesirable an inmate, Mr. Winter was quite content to let things be as they were. He was of rather a close nature, and it was a great thing to be relieved of the third at table. Perhaps it may be more correct to say selfish, instead of close; since he grudged nothing that could contribute to his own enjoyment and his wife's; but he grudged the cost of an interloper.

It was at this period, just twelve years after Jack's departure, that a blow fell on Mr. Winter. In the full zenith of his pride and power, before a silver thread had mingled with his luxuriant brown hair, or a wrinkle crossed his handsome face, he was stricken suddenly—but to death. Driving his spirited horses in the park, amid the great people of the land, (none greater in self-importance than he,) his wife by his side, his two servants behind, there arose an accident. In turning by Apsley House something fretted or frightened the horses; they dashed at the gate, and the carriage was overturned. Mrs. Winter and the servants were not hurt, to speak of; Mr. Winter lay as he fell. He was conveyed home, and those of the faculty most eminent in name and skill were speedily gathered round his bed. His right leg was broken; and, worse still, there was some inward injury. Dangerous symptoms supervened, and Septimus Winter lay face to face with death.

No one living can realise what such a position must be, unless brought personally unto it. For three weeks Mr. Winter's life hovered in the balance, not knowing one hour of that time, but the next he should be called to meet his Maker. The medical men, in obedience to his wish, had informed him of his true state; and without reluctance. What need, thought they, to hide it from so saintly a pilgrim, whose reputation for holiness and good works at least equaled that of the Archbishop of Canterbury! Mr. Winter listened to the possible fiat; and he knew that it was God's fiat, not man's.

He was not fit to die; he knew it quite well, lying there in his mental agony. There could be no tampering then with conscience, and it seemed that for him there was not any balm invented to heal its stings. He, the morally good and self-righteous man, who had stood on a lofty pinnacle to teach and guide other souls, saw things now in their true colors. God had shown him his sin.

The one great weight was his brother. His harsh treatment of him, in regard to Jack was brought home to him in a marked and special manner. Quite at the first there was some slight delirium, during which present events were obliterated, and he was back in the past. It was on the second evening after the accident that he subsided at dusk into a delirious doze. He thought he was at their old home in the country village—he and his mother and Jack. They seemed to be parting; that he, Septimus, was going forth to try his fortune in the world—as in reality he had done. His mother held his hand in hers, all his old intense love for her was working within him: it seemed that she had given him some great help at a cost to herself, to get him on. Little Jack stood by, looking up with his bright brown eyes, his ready smile; and his mother suddenly released one of her hands and laid it on Jack's shoulder, as if presenting the lad to him. "I leave him to you," she said; "take care of him and bring him to me hereafter." And he put his own hand out to Jack and accepted the charge. Just then some crash awoke the sick man—it was but a gust of wind against the window pane—and he started in wild fear. For a few blessed moments he thought the dream was reality—that he was back in that dear old village, and only just entering on life. As the truth revealed itself, and he remembered that his mother was dead, he a great man in the world, Jack nowhere, a groan burst from him. How had he fulfilled his mother's wishes!—for she had left Jack to him—what should he say when he met her? And the meeting must be at hand, if indeed he was crossing the threshold of this world! When the nurse, hearing the groan, glided to the bedside, the patient's face looked livid as with some mortal terror.

That it was this vivid dream that in the first instance caused the remorse to set in with so intense an agony, there could be no doubt of. Conscience, awakened by his position, could not have failed to bring Jack before him with a terrible reprimand; but not, perhaps, as he was brought now. Whether dream or delirium, Septimus Winter believed that it had come direct from God; and the words "I will require of thee thy brother's soul" seemed to be mingling ever with others in his ears. He wondered now whether his own children had been taken from him in requital.

In time; in time—he knew not how it could be, he saw not how, it was possible, except that God's ways are not as our ways—he began to experience a taste of peace; to think that even he might be forgiven.

Never was there a man so changed as he, when he at length rose up from his weary bed. Thinner and weaker of course in frame, and he would hump a little all his life; but the change lay not in that. It was in his manner. The rather pompous and self-contained man, with a clear voice and speech that the world could not ruffle, had become subdued, humble, meek as a little child. Heart and conscience alike ached always; ached to pain.

As soon as he was sufficiently strong, he instituted a search for Jack. In every quarter presenting but the faintest probability of hearing of him, did the clergyman inquire. He looked up Jack's former companions, disreputable young medical students twelve years ago; he wrote to his native village; he put advertisements in the second column of the Times, and in other papers. Nothing came of it. He never much expected that anything would come of it. The mental conviction that Jack was dead had not decreased one iota; but he sought to find the possible consolation of hearing that he had died in peace.

At length, when he had given up all hopes of ever finding traces of Jack, they came. A medical man in Lambeth, to whom Jack was to have gone as assistant, perceiving Mr. Winter's anxiety on the point, had good-naturedly promised to keep his eyes open, and let him know if any thing transpired. One morning, when the clergyman was sitting listlessly by the fire, he was not yet capable of active employment—this gentleman was shown in. He came to say that he had met the person who at last set at rest and Jack found.

"Alive or dead?" asked Mr. Winter, in his subdued tone; but his heart was beating so fast that he could scarcely put the question.

"Dead. About six years ago."

A keen pang shot through Mr. Winter's heart at the miserable desolation in which he had died.

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Drums are beating, trumpets blowing, voices shouting. "Marceshino's Circus" has taken root upon the plain, and the town's natives are agog with wonder. It seemed to have sprung up in the night, like a mushroom, the wide, circular tent, with sawdust inside and caravans out; but to arrive in the night, and get things up by morning, was Marceshino's way of taking the world by surprise.

The procession had gone round the town in all the blaze and glory of marvelous horses, coaches of glass and gilding, music playing, ladies and gentlemen in feathers and spangles. A sweet child of seven years, as the mite was, was the queen of it, of platform propelled by invisible wheels, that perhaps might belong to human beings; from which elevation she distributed handbills to the populace in a manner that might have been strangely graceful but for its shrinking timidity. The procession had got back now, and the ladies and gentlemen were running themselves on the platform over the entrance, to the exceeding admiration of the assisted crowd; the little girl standing in frost and handing down the bills as before. She wore a blue gauze frock, studded with silver stars, and white satin shoes; blue ribbons binding back her flowing brown hair. Never had a sweeter face been seen in a circus, or out of it; never a more refined, modest manner than the child displayed. The hand struck up, "Haste to the Wedding," and the handbills dropped in showers.

"Oh, do take us! Do take us, Uncle Winter!"

Well, why not—if he could give a little pleasure to these eager children? he asked of his weary heart. And he said he would; and bought the tickets there and then.

A high-caste clergyman at a performance of this kind! some might exclaim in condemning astonishment. Well, yes. In the past days, when he was a model of goodness, Mr. Winter had scarcely deigned up his black coat skirt, if within a mile of its contamination; but somehow his views had undergone a change. People, despised before, he felt humble by the side of now. The men and women belonging to this circus might all be miserable sinners; but what was he? They might well be nearer God's saving mercy than he was.

And, behold him in the front row when evening came, the eager children under his wing. It was but a rude place; circuses put up in a night cannot be finished off with crimson cloth and polished brass nails. They sat upon bare boards that did not seem too steady, and Mr. Winter had some doubts of the flaring lights. Marceshino's circus, with all its show and glitter, was not upon the high ropes; before the performance began, its ladies and gentlemen walked in and out amid the spectators, and did not disdain to answer if spoken to; which was condescending.

The clergyman sat, his brow leaning on his hand; it had grown to be a favorite attitude, as if he always felt pain there; glancing on occasionally when forced by the children. The tight-rope dancing was not dangerous; the clowns' jokes were nothing but what all the world might hear; and the riding of the Misses Marceshino, though it did not show perilous skill, had no unpleasant boldness. Applause was hearty; gingerbread and fruit sold fast. A louder burst of admiration than usual caused Mr. Winter to look up.

Riding into the arena on a cream-colored palfrey speckled with red-brown spots, came a lady who had not yet appeared. She wore a short pink satin skirt finished off at the top with blue; on her head was a golden tiara. Sitting before her in floating white robes, was the pretty child who had distributed the bills in the day; and the child held on as though she were shy or frightened. Referring to the bill, Mr. Winter found these two described as Mme. Louise and the Fairy Sylph. The Fairy Sylph looked very much afraid; she was clinging to Mme. Louise had evidently passed her first trial, and was no longer, to say the least of it, of sylph-like proportions.

Presently this little girl appeared amid the spectators, distributing bills of the fresh marvels to be seen at the next evening's performance. As she timidly held out one to the clergyman, he took her hand.

"My little maid, do you like this life?"

The fair face flushed sensitively. She glanced round, as if the question bordered on treason.

"Papa is ill, Sir."

That the answer conveyed sufficient information was evident to the child. "Papa?" As the clergyman looked at her, something in her face struck him as not being altogether unfamiliar—it seemed to bear a likeness to some other face he must have known.

"What is your name, my little one?"

"The Fairy Sylph, Sir."

"I mean your real name."

"Florence Winter."

The words, given in a whisper, thrilled through every fibre of the clergyman's heart. Never since the death of his own little blossom and the grief it brought, had that name been spoken lightly in his ears. But the child had gone on with her bills, and was lost to his view.

The fine evening had changed to rain; a heavy storm. Some of it came penetrating in places through the canvas roof, to the discomfiture of the admiring spectators.

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Hurrying through the wet streets, their heads downwards, the woman in a worn old cloak, the child bundled up in a ragged shawl, went they. None would have recognized them for Mme. Louise and the Fairy Sylph. In place of the gorgeous pink satin and the white floating robes, were poor garments dull and rusty.

Holding the little hand, the woman was speaking in a tone of remonstrance; almost of threats; though the voice was not an unkind one. The child caught up her breath now and again with a sobbing sigh, as if the scolding were deserved; a sound only heard when the heart is charged with heavy grief.

"It's all nonsense, Florence. Fear, fear, fear! It's six weeks, good, now that you have been at close practicing, and yet you profess the same fear that you did at the beginning. You want it shaken out of you. How will you do, pray, when you have to ride alone, and go through three hoops of silver paper in each round?"

A passing shiver, an involuntary tightening hold of the protecting hand, proved that the idea was not liked.

"I wonder Mare puts up with you so long. He has been as kind as he could be—just out of favor to me, and the profit I have brought to the Circus in the years gone by. Is it my fault if Pa growing fat? Mare knows it's not. You are a little ungrateful monkey—and, if you don't take the hoop to-morrow, woe betide you."

"If it were anything but riding!" sobbed the child.

"If it were anything but riding!" mimicked the woman. "Of course! that's what every turn-about says—anything but their set work. You are beginning to be cunning early, young madam."

"I'll go through the hoop to-morrow," answered the grieving child.

"Don't cry like that! He'll be wanting to know what has been up. And mind you don't let out about the hoop to him; or about the going out in the procession; let him think you just sit on the horse with me, and no more; he has his crotchets, you see. Here we are."

Ascending what seemed to be the common staircase of a lodging house, the woman opened the door of a room in the roof. On a bed on the floor lay a man with the bright eyes and wasted cheeks of an invalid. A smile parted his feverish lips when he saw the child, and he stretched out one thin hand to her; the other hand was contracted with the remains of rheumatic fever. She threw back her bonnet and darted forward; knelt down and buried her face on his breast.

"What has my little Florence got to trouble her?" he fondly asked, feeling the wild throbbing of her heart against his.

"We've been so beat about with the wind and rain, Jack," interposed the woman; "it quite frightened her."

She began bustling about to prepare supper; cheese and beer for herself, bread and butter for Florence; and stirring up the fire to make some hot gruel for Jack. Florence, in spite of herself, trembled still.

"My little girl does not like the riding," he whispered. "I know."

"Oh yes, yes, papa," she eagerly cried, lest her dread and its frightful ingratitude should be betrayed. "It is very nice, and the spangles are beautiful, and Mr. Mare is never rough with me."

"I know," he repeated, in a decisive tone, as if Florence could not deceive him. "It is only for a little while, my darling. Mare will get better soon, and then—nothing, mother?"

The young face was lifted in brightness. "Only for a little while!" A promise had brought to her she knew not what of rapture.

"I will do my best until then, papa, and go through the—go through the riding," said she, the forbidden word "hoop" having all but slipped out in her eagerness. "Mother will take care of me till you get well, papa."

Drums and trumpets, and lights and feathers, and spangles. The evening performance had recommenced, with all its noise and glitter, and Mr. Marceshino had the gratification of seeing an overflowing audience.

In the very spot where he was the previous night, but alone this time, sat Mr. Winter. Surely it might have been deemed strange that a disreputable traveling circus, (as many disreputable ones would not have hesitated to style it,) should be so attracting him!

In due time Mme. Louise and the child came in on the spotted palfrey. Each time they passed him in going round the arena he sought to trace the likeness. But the pace was swift; the glances he obtained were transitory.

Three times was the hoop held before the standing child. Each time she seemed as if about to make a spring, and did not. Mme. Louise seemed to say some sharp words; Mr. Marceshino cracked his whip lowly; and the fourth time she took the spring. It was a signal failure. The child threw the hoop down, and fell herself—not to the ground for Mme. Louise's stout and skilled arms contrived to catch her. That lady looked dark with anger, and the poor child burst into tears. Dropping her gently down, Mme. Louise, by way of covering the defeat, put forth her mettle, took one or two daring leaps herself, and rode like mad. The good-natured spectators cheered to the roof.

The child, overcome with humiliation, was silently making her exit, when she found herself caught hold of by the clergyman. She turned up her little tear-stained face.

"Don't cry," he soothingly said; "you are not hurt."

"It is for papa," she answered. "I shall never be able to do it. Mother is so angry."

"Is that your mother?" pointing to the flying pink satin.

"Yes; she is papa's wife."

He saw the likeness now. It lay in the soft brown eyes. "My dear, will you tell me what your papa's name is?"

"Winter."

"And his other name?"

"Jack."

Mr. Winter did not know whether a spasm struck his heart, but it seemed to stand suddenly still. Could it be—could it be, that Jack was yet in life?—that the sad history disclosed of the death in Lambeth related to another? Before he could speak again the child was gone.

It was a fine evening. As Mme. Louise and the Fairy Sylph were walking homewards in their dull costume, not many degrees removed from tatters, the former's tongue waging hot war on the delinquent, she found herself accosted by a gentleman in the garb of the Church of England. He fancied he knew her husband, he said; would she allow him to accompany them home and see him?

The question took Mme. Louise aback. But the speaker reassured her, and they all walked on together. The woman told how helpless her husband had been for months and months, which was the reason of the girl's being put to the circus.

"She can't bear it, Sir; says she's frightened. It's very ungrateful of her, for she knows as well as I do the state her papa is in; she has got the sense and thought of one double her age. He don't like it for her, neither—but what will you?—we must live. Once let her get to ride fearlessly, and she'd be the chief attraction of the troupe; folks take to her looks, you see, Sir."

"Do you know why this child was christened Florence?" asked the clergyman in a low tone.

"No, Sir. I was only married to her father three years ago."

"Papa has told me I had a little cousin named Florence once; he was very fond of her; and she died," spoke up the listening child.

Higher and higher grew his hope. When they got up stairs and into the room the invalid was lying, as usual, on the low bed, nearly in darkness. Mme. Louise lighted a candle, and held it (intending to be hospitable) so that the flame shone on either face—on the one looking doubtfully down, on the other looking wonderingly up.

"Is it you, Septimus?"

The words set doubt at rest. With a great gasp, a sob of delirious joy, Septimus Winter fell beside the bed, and clasped poor Jack in his arms as he had never done since the lad's boyhood.

"Oh, Jack, my brother, forgive, forgive me!"

Jack was too weak to betray much emotion, but the tears shone in his great brown eyes, the slender fingers of his one able hand entwined themselves within those of his brother. No wonder Mr. Winter had failed at first to recognize him; he was fearfully changed.

"Don't ask about it," he said, almost passionately, when the clergyman would have questioned him of his past life. "There has not been much good in it to tell about. I went to the bad after I left you, and felt ashamed to let anybody know where I was. My marriage brought me up for a time; she was a lady, mind, Septimus; a world too good for me, and had some money. We lived in Italy; Florence was born there, and when she was two years old her mother died. What little money was left I soon got through. I came back to England, and was about as bad as a man can be."

"And—she—is your second wife?" whispered Septimus, glancing at Mme. Louise, who was on her knees coaxing up the fire.

"Yes. I fell in with Mareschino's circus. Mare and I grew intimate, and his sister Louisa married me. It was no bargain for her; though you, remembering social prejudices, would say, I suppose, it was none for me. She is an honest woman, Septimus; there are such in a circus troupe as well as out of it. She has been a good wife to me, and cared for Florence. Rheumatic fever set in a year ago, and here I am—dying before I'm middle aged."

"Not dying, Jack, I trust; it still and care can restore you."

"Well, sometimes I have hope. Chiefly when I think of Florence. Any way, God has been good to me, for He has shown me my sin, the folly of a wasted life."

Good to both of them; good to both of them. As the clergyman parted with Jack and went home in the moonlight, his heart overflowing with its sense of the mercy the night had brought him, he wondered how he could ever hope to be sufficiently thankful.

But Jack was to die. Love and skill were exerted, but they did not save him. In a pretty cottage of his native village, where he had wished to go, death came to him calmly and peacefully. Septimus and his wife were there; and the child was solemnly given over to them.

"You'll do better by her than I ever should," said Jack, his grateful eyes growing dim now, fixed on them. "She'll be happier with you than she could have been with me."

"If love can make her so," murmured Septimus Winter's wife.

"And I know that she will have that," spoke Mme. Louise. "I'd have done my best by her; but a poor best it would be."

"If you could but be persuaded to live in comfort as Jack's widow—in this cottage, for instance," suggested Mrs. Winter, anxiously.

"Ah, but I can't; thank you all the same. I must stick by the old concern as long as it will stick by me; I'll not be happy out of it. I can ride for some years yet; and I fancy my calves are a trifle smaller. The Mares will be glad to have me live with them, as I did before I married."

"It is must be," sighed Mr. Winter, thinking of the frightful discomfort of such a life. "Have no fears on the score of Florence. She will be to us as a dear child."

"I may come to see her sometimes?—once in a year or so?" pleaded Mme. Louise. "I know I am only a poor circus rider, and she is—altogether different."

"Come! Yes," warmly responded the clergyman, his chest heaving with emotion. "Difference! Shall we not be all alike in heaven?"—*The Argosy.*

AN EGYPTIAN CAPTAIN.—Our ever-joyous, Captain AHMET HASSAN, came on board to dinner, and was as quick and entertaining as ever. Fourteen years at sea, poor man, ere he had a little taste of shore life. Yet he prefers the sea to Nile navigation. "I never go down all day now—paddle box, always paddle box—shouting Fuliey speed! Halfey speed! Turney stern! At sea, give my course to officer—lie down, go sleep. Sea much better." ALI RIBA pointed out a passage in Lady DUFF GORDON's letters which he was reading, as a proof of bad taste. It related to the Prince of WALES' marriage. Captain and servant was surrounded to have paint when the Prince "would see his wife first," which ALI RIBA considered as Mahometan. To the Captain it seemed a loving and general invitation to "all hands at Cairo, on our return, said: "I will show you everything—everything—the camel with all his teeth!" "See my wife." "But," said the Duke, "when you come to me in Scotland, you will see the Duchess." "Each country has its customs. If I take my wife to Scotland, I let you see her face." The Captain thinks he has only one wife; and then he turns his breast and laughs, and adds: "I am Englishman—one wife—one wife."—*A Diary in the East. By William Howard Russell.*

DR. LIVINGSTONE'S ADVENTURE WITH THE LION.—The following extract from Dr. LIVINGSTONE'S account of his adventures in Africa, during one of his early visits, may be new to some of our readers: "In going round the end of the hill I saw one of the beasts sitting on a piece of rock as before, but this time he had a little bush in front. Being about thirty yards off, I took a good aim at his body through the bush, and fired both barrels into it. The man then called out: 'He is shot—he is shot!' Others cried: 'He has been shot by another man, too! Let us go to him!' I did not see anyone else shoot at him, but I saw the lion's tail erected in anger behind the bush, and, turning to the people, said: 'Stop a little till I load again!' When in the act of running down the bullets, I heard a shout.

Starting and looking half round, I saw the lion just in the act of springing upon me. I was upon a little height; he caught my shoulder as he sprang, and we both came to the ground below together. Growling horribly close to my ear, he shook me as a terrier dog does a rat. This shock produced a stupor similar to that which seems to be felt by a mouse after the first shake of the cat. It caused a sort of dreaminess in which there was no sense of pain, nor feeling of terror, though quite conscious of all that was happening. It was like what patients partially under the influence of chloroform describe, who see all the operation, but feel not the knife. This singular condition was not the result of any mental process. The shake annihilated fear, and allowed no sense of horror in looking round at the beast. This peculiar state is probably produced in all animals killed by the carnivora; and, if so, is a merciful provision by our benevolent Creator for lessening the pain of death. Turning round to relieve myself of the weight, as he had one paw on the back of my head, I saw his eyes directed towards MEBALWE, who was trying to shoot him at a distance of ten or fifteen yards. His gun, a flint one, missed fire in both barrels; the lion immediately left me, and attacking MEBALWE, bit his thigh. Another man, whose life I had saved before, seeing he had been tossed by a buffalo, attempted to spear the lion while he was biting MEBALWE. He left MEBALWE and caught this man by the shoulders, but at this moment the bullets he had received took effect, and he fell down dead. The whole was the work of a few minutes, and must have been his paroxysm of dying rage. In order to take out the charm from him, the Baktlas on the following day made a huge bonfire over the carcass, which was declared to be that of the largest lion they had ever seen. Besides crunching the bone into splinters, he left eleven teeth wounds on the upper part of my arm. A wound from this animal's tooth resembles a gun-shot wound; it is generally followed by a great deal of sloughing and discharge, and pains are felt periodically ever afterward. I had on a tartan jacket on the occasion, and I believe that it wiped off all the virus from the teeth that pierced the flesh; for my two companions in this affray have both suffered from the peculiar pains, while I have escaped with only the inconvenience of a false joint in the limb. The man whose shoulder was wounded showed me his wound actually burst forth afresh on the same month of the following year. This curious point deserves the attention of inquirers."

THE MUSIC OF THE FUTURE.—Was it not ELLISTON who, when a new play, brought out under his management, was remorselessly hissed, came forward on the fall of the curtain and addressed the audience thus: "What! you don't like the piece! Then you shall have it every night till you do!" The English manager's impudence has been rivaled by the confidence of a French concert-giver. M. PASDELOUP's enthusiastic worship of Herr WAGNER is well known. This admiration led him into the error of bringing out the noisy, blatant "Rienzi" at the Theatre Lyrique, and it impels him to interpolate specimens of music of the future into the programmes of his "Concerts Populaires." Hence perpetual disturbances. The other day the overture to "Die Meistersinger," played for the first time in Paris, aroused a hurricane of impatient disapprobation; on which M. PASDELOUP assured his hearers "that a work of such importance could not be understood in a single hearing, and that he would therefore repeat it on the following Sunday. Why will Herr WAGNER's disciples insist on thrusting his music down the throats of those to whom it is distasteful? This is not the way to make it popular. But the prophet of the future has at least the consolation of being looked upon as a martyr.—*Athenæum.*

GARNET THE JESUIT.—HENRY GARNET, Prefect of the English Jesuits, was a square, bluff man, of middle age, much worn by care, if not by drink, and looking ten years older than he was, had a string of different names. In Flanders he was known as Father Greene, Father Whalley, and Father Roberts. In England he passed under the priestly names of Father Garnet, Father Darcy, and Father Whalley; under the lay names of Mr. Farmer and Mr. Moss. He had as many homes as names; not to speak of the houses of his penitents and pupils, which were to him as homes. He had a house called White Webbs, in Enfield Chase; a lodging in Thames-street, near Queenhithe; a secluded residence on Wandsworth Common; and an old manor at Erith, which he used for the coming and going of his agents by the Thames. This man of many names and domiciles is said to have kept a merry table. He was accused of a fondness for female society which ill became a priest, and the name of HELEN BROOKSBY was coupled with this hint of frailty, even more than that of her sister ANNE VAUX. Most of his days and nights were spent in evading spies, in studying tricks and masks, in passing under false colors, in conducting spurious correspondence. One day he was a rich merchant from the city, next day a poor soldier from the wars; here a married man, there a single one; now a tavern-ruffler, with rapier ready on his thigh; anon a starving curate, full of ardor for his queen. Each day was to him a fight for liberty and life.—*Her Majesty's Tower, Vol. II., by Hepworth Dixon.*

THE MOON AND THE WEATHER.—Most people believe that a change of moon brings about a change of weather.

A certain honest High Sheriff, finding himself shut up in his own coach with the late Justice M., whose reputation as a "rough customer," though a keen wit, had preceded him on the Circuit, was rather at a loss for conversation; there was another Judge, of course, in the vehicle, but he was a silent man, and so the poor Sheriff was left to his own resources.

"My Lord," said he at last, "the moon has changed, and so I hope that we shall have fine weather."

"Are you then such a fool, Sir," growled great M., "to believe that the moon has anything to do with it?"

Here the silent Judge, who was a courtly man, interposed with: "Really, Brother M., I think you are very hard upon our friend Mr. High-Sheriff. I confess that I, for my part, believe that the moon has a very considerable influence on the state of the weather."

"Then, all I can say is, brother," retorted great M., "that you are as great a fool as the Sheriff."

The author of the present useful volume takes the same view as the aesty Judge. "One frequently hears," says he, "of the weather altering at the change of moon; but careful observers have been unable to detect any real differences in the state of the air at such times." The sun, indeed, is a better prophet; but then his predictions only refer to the coming few hours. "When it is evening, ye say, It will be fair weather, for the sky is red; and in the morning, It will be foul weather to-day, for the sky is red and lowring," Matt. xvi. And this is corroborated by many a popular saw:

"Sky red at night is the sailor's delight;
Sky red in the morning is the sailor's warning."

Most weather beliefs, however, notwithstanding that they may be both ancient and dignified, are illusive and unfounded. There is a nautical proverb which arises from "supposed clearance of clouds which takes place when the full moon rises: "The full moon eats clouds," and there is also an Indian saying almost identical: "The full moon grows fat on clouds." Yet close observation has proved that there is no fact of the sort. Again: "The west wind is a gentleman, and goes to bed," (that is, drops in the evening,) says the proverb; but Cornish men know better. It "drops on" to their ships, and behaves in a manner anything but gentlemanlike. Weather proverbs are, in fact, as a general rule, only to be trusted when they are quite local; they are almost all empirical, and founded on insufficient data; and it is only on a limited area that anything like certainty can be attained.—*Chambers' Journal.*

LAST HOURS OF MARY STUART.

(From Froude's History of England.)

Her last night was a busy one. As she said herself, there was much to be done and the time was short. A few lines to the King of France were dated two hours after midnight. They were to insist for the last time that she was innocent of the conspiracy, that she was dying for religion, and for having asserted her right to the crown; and to beg that out of the sum which he owed her, her servants' wages might be paid and masses provided for her soul. After this she slept for three or four hours, and then rose and with the most elaborate care prepared to encounter the end. At 6 in the morning the Provost-Marshal knocked at the outer door which communicated with her suite of apartments. It was locked and no one answered, and he went back in some trepidation lest the fears might prove true which had been entertained the preceding evening. On his returning with the Sheriff, however, a few minutes later, the door was open, and they were confronted with the majestic figure of MARY STUART standing before them in splendor. The plain gray dress had been exchanged for a robe of black satin; her jacket was of black satin also, looped and slashed and trimmed with velvet. Her false hair was arranged studiously with a coif, and over her head and falling down over her back was a white veil of delicate lawn. A crucifix of gold hung from her neck. In her hand she held a crucifix of ivory, and a number of jewaled paternosters was attached to her girdle.

Led by two of PAULET's gentlemen, the Sheriff walking before her, she passed to the chamber of presence in which she had been tried, where SHREWSBURY, KENT, PAULET, DRURY and others were waiting to receive her. ANDREW MELVILLE, SIR ROBERT's brother, who had been master of her household, was kneeling in tears. "MELVILLE," she said, "you should rather rejoice than weep that the end of my troubles is come. Tell my friends I die a true Catholic. Commend me to my son. Tell him I have done nothing to prejudice his kingdom of Scotland, and so, good MELVILLE, farewell." She kissed him, and turning asked for her chaplain, DU PREAU. He was not present. There had been a fear of some religious melodrama which it was thought well to avoid. Her ladies, who had attempted to follow her, had been kept back also. She could not afford to leave the account of her death to be reported by enemies and Puritans, and she required assistance for the scene which she meditated. Missing them, she asked the reason of their absence, and said she wished them to see her die. KENT said he feared they might scream or faint, or attempt perhaps to dip their handkerchiefs in her blood. She undertook that they should be quiet and obedient. "The Queen," she said, "would never deny her so slight a request;" and when KENT still hesitated, she added with tears. "You know I am cousin to your Queen, of the blood of HENRY VII., a married Queen of France, and anointed Queen of Scotland." It was impossible to refuse.

She was allowed to take six of her own people with her, and select them herself. She chose her physician BURGOYNE, ANDREW MELVILLE, the apothecary GORION, and her surgeon, with two ladies, ELIZABETH KEN

reminds us that we are a year older; but it need not be a disagreeable sadness. How this object is to be accomplished is, however, a large question.—*Saturday Review.*

AMERICAN CHURCHES.

Rev. HARRY JONES, Vicar of St Luke's, Berwick-street, London, communicates to the London *Guardian* a very interesting paper on the American Churches, as observed by him during a recent tour in the States. He writes:

"I was not prepared to find such strong evidences of popular respect for religion as I found everywhere during my tour. I found them not only in the city and the country, but in the forest, the steamboat and the railway session. Americans are very fond of rules and regulations, and this taste shows itself often in the conventional codes of piety which are adopted by the various churches. In their country private judgment is more or less limited to the choice of some particular community, the members of which profess the same opinions and look sharply after each other. I am bound to say, however, that one church will receive members from another; but the names of applicants are submitted to the congregation with whom they wish to be in communion. I have heard them read out on Sunday. All this shows the prevalence of a minute ecclesiastical supervision which runs through the whole mass of professing Christians in America. The American Church in the largest sense is a congeries of religious republics which have no permanent federation. Each being, however, as it were, a republic, wide religious provision is made for the masses of the people. There is little in America corresponding to the provision of the means of Divine worship for the 'poor' of which we hear in England. I have heard this brought as a charge against American Churches. But the real answer, to speak generally, is that there are few 'poor,' as we understand the word. Large numbers of the working classes who might be loosely classed as 'poor' with us, are, as far as my observation has gone—and I have attended many services, or looked in while they were being held—in the habit of attending some place of worship. I have been congregations of Methodists or Baptists where any one with an eye for the social position of the material of a crowd could perceive at once that those present did not belong to what we perhaps would call the upper or middle classes. Moreover, we are too ready to form an opinion on the general provision for the 'masses' in America from what we see in cities. The sub-division of the land into small parcels, each worked by the owner of the soil, his family, and some 'farmers,' as agricultural laborers are called in America, these last sometimes living in the landowner's house, provides a class which to a great extent occupies the place and does the work of such an agricultural class as we have in England. The 'poor' in England. Thus the bulk of the real American people are found in the country. The city poor are mainly Irish Roman Catholics, who are looked after by their own priests with much external success, if I may judge by the character of the congregations I have seen in Roman Catholic churches. Hence the religious provisions for many who look poor in the streets of a city is accounted for. Then there are the negroes, who are chiefly Baptists, and have their own places of worship. Then consider, as I have said, how the real masses of Americans are spread over the country. Look at the wooden church in every village. See how the spire or tower, staring with paint, and esthetically ugly as possible, shows itself in new settlements. And ask, 'Who build these—who attend them?' The real 'workingmen' of America. The people have interests of the profoundest kind with which we are familiar in England. Instead of having money begged for them by others for a church, they build it themselves, and instead of having a parson set among them, they look about and 'call' some one to be their minister. It is the same in education. Here the parson begs and scrapes to get a school built. There he looks out of his window and sees the thing done without his moving a finger.

I confess that I did not like divers of the services in the Episcopal church which I attended. Any of our brethren in America who may read this must forgive me when I say that I was sometimes struck to the back bone by their coldness. Respectability seemed to reign supreme. That is, however, an essential feature in American religious gatherings. In church there was frequently but little responding. The choir, consisting generally of ladies and gentlemen in a gallery, as a rule, sings to the congregation, which listens. Some of the clergy feel this painfully. At one church where I assisted in the service, being asked some question afterwards in the vestry, I could not help saying that I thought the 'Te Deum' rather long. It was very elaborately sung, one young lady taking a prominent solo part. 'Te Deum!' said the Rector, 'it is what I call Te-dious.' The failure in congregational music is more striking in some Episcopal churches from the habit which some of the congregations have of sitting while the hymns are sung to them. The best congregational singing I heard in America was in Mr. WARD BEECHER's church, in Brooklyn. The next to that was in an Episcopal church at the corner of Sixth-avenue and Twentieth-street, in New-York. This church is, I believe, almost unique in its way. The seats are all free and unappropriated. There is not much of what is called ritual, since the choir of men and boys who chant antiphonally in their seats at the east end are not even surpliced.

One thing which struck me in almost all the congregations I saw was the large, in some instances very large, proportion of men present. The defect in responding does not, I believe, arise from indifference to the service, but rather from the silence, which is a striking feature of American gatherings. Religion there is an eminently pressing—nay sometimes importunate matter of general public concern, and men do not leave its observances to be attended to by what have been called 'bonnets and babies.' The man element is very conspicuous. I went to the St. Alban's—so named—of New-York, where the service is highly ritualistic, candles being lighted on the altar during celebration, banners carried, wafer bread used, &c. Here the seats are free and unappropriated, but as there are no kneeling boards or hassocks, many sit during prayers. The church is small, there being possibly room to seat 300. It struck me that the proportion of women who enter here than elsewhere. I am inclined to suspect that ritualistic will not commend itself much to Americans, but, whatever else may be thought about it, the service at St. Alban's in New-York is a bold attempt to break through the cold crust of public worship in the States.

Almost all the churches I saw were exceedingly comfortable. The seats, and in some cases their backs, were softly cushioned. The best sermons, or at least those which I thought best, were in Presbyterian and Congregational places of worship. But what I think surprised me most was the 'orthodoxy' of sentiments I heard in a Unitarian and Universalist Church. In the latter, where there was a magnificent congregation with a large proportion of men, the minister laid down the doctrine of the Atonement with a minuteness of severe detail which would have satisfied the most exacting upholder of the dogma of vicarious suffering. In another, a non-Episcopalian Church—I really cannot say to what denomination it belonged—I heard, I think, the driest, poulest sermon I ever listened to, and that is saying much. The preacher was discoursing on the sixth chapter of St. John, 'Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of Man,' &c. He said, 'This cannot be understood literally, for such a supposition would offend the best feeling of propriety.' The congregation looked as if especially accessible to such an appeal. It struck me that clergymen are treated with great respect in America. I have, unasked, had an abatement made in the price of an article because I was a clergyman. Some railways carry ministers free; and I was told it was not an unusual thing for a company to present a bishop with a free pass over all its lines. Indeed, I was advised myself always to mention my cloth in taking a ticket, as twenty-five per cent would be deducted from its price. I did not do this, and so cannot vouch from experience for the effect of the statement. From lay and clerical sources I gathered that the clergy, as a rule, are far from being ill paid in the United States. In some cases congregations even meet the expenses of a tour when their minister is in need of exceptional rest, and provide funds for a substitute while he is away. Americans do not grudge their clergy liberal stipends when they like them, but an unpopular man feels his unpopularity in a material sense."

FRENCH BANK NOTES.—The life of a French bank note is said to average two or three years, and does not terminate until the condition is very shaky indeed—crimpled, pierced with pin holes, copper creases torn, soft, tarnished, decrepit while yet young. Some have been half-burned; one has been found half-digested in the stomach of a goat, and one boiled in a waistcoat pocket by a laundress. No matter; the cashier at the bank will do his best to decipher it; he will, indeed, take an infinity of trouble to put together the ashes of a burned note, and will give the owner a new note or the value in coin, if satisfied of the integrity of the old one. The bank authorities preserve specimens of this kind as curiosities, minute fragments gummed in their proper position on a sheet of paper. Very few of the notes are actually and irrecoverably lost. During the last 67 years, 29,000 bank notes of 1,000f. each have been issued, and of this number 23,956 have been returned to the bank by the month of January last, leaving only 43 unaccounted for. Whether these 43 are still in existence, or have been burned into uncollected ashes, or are at the bottom of the sea, or elsewhere, is not known. Of 500 franc notes, 24,035 have been returned out of 25,000.—*Chambers's Journal.*

THE TRAVELING COMPANIONS.

From "Happy Thoughts," new series, in Punch.

Chilvern stops at every shop.

HAPPY THOUGHT.—To walk on and leave him.

When I do this I hear behind me, (this in the open street, too,) "Hi, old boy! hi! look here! Here's a rum thing."

In Antwerp there is a statue—an object of religious devotion—at the corner of nearly every street. People going past, I notice, generally touch their hats. Chilvern stops opposite one larger then the rest—a light is burning before it.

"Hi! hallo! look here!" he cries. "Ain't this a rum go? This is a queer sort of dodge for lighting the streets."

HAPPY THOUGHT.—Leave Antwerp to-morrow, and go on to Aix. Not so much "leave Antwerp" as leave Chilvern.

He is a nuisance. Respectably dressed, I shouldn't mind him. If he had his own money with him, I could get rid of him. But in his, as it were, celebrated character of a British Excursionist in a suit of "dittos," and entirely dependent upon *me* for money, Chilvern is a nuisance.

HAPPY THOUGHT (*while he's in front of a pictures-shop window.*)—Go on some way ahead, as if I was not connected with him. He'd be sure to find his way to the hotel again. If he didn't, though? He can't be robbed, as he has no money, and has only got a steel watch-guard with a bunch of keys at the end of it.

"Hi! Hi! Hi!" Chilvern shouting. "Here! Look here, I say. Here's such a rum cove at the corner of the street!"

The "rum" cove turns out to be a monk of some order or another. I suppress the strong desire to regard him curiously, and only say, as a lesson to Chilvern: "Oh, of course that's nothing here. *Do come on.*"

HAPPY THOUGHT.—Take his arm and walk him along briskly.

Chilvern can't get over the monk. "Why," he says to me, "he had regular sandals." I am silent. A few seconds afterwards he continues, suddenly: "Why, he, he was shaved all over his head!" His next idea on the subject is that "he'd make his fortune at Covent Garden in the season, at so much a night, for the 'Huguenots' or 'Favorita.'"

Why can't Chilvern see that he offends the prejudices of the people by talking out loud like this, and staring at a monk. I don't stare at a monk. I should like to, but I don't.

We go to the Museum—where the picture gallery is. Woman at gate wants to know if I'll have a catalogue. Chilvern says, "Oh, yes, do have a catalogue!" and takes one off the counter. This costs me three francs. He shouldn't take it and open it and read in it, before it's paid for. He replies that it's all the same to him, as it's in French, and he can't make it out. Shall certainly go on to Aix to-morrow, and leave Chilvern.

IN THE GALLERY.—Full of old masters. Students at easels making copies in oils. I like enjoying pictures by myself. Get away from Chilvern. He is at one end of the room, I in the middle. I am admiring a masterpiece by some Flemish artist, date 1493. What queer attitudes people fell into then!

While I am making this note, I hear Chilvern shouting—positively shouting—"Hi! Look here, I say!" to me. Everybody turns round and stares. The whole place is disturbed.

A small bandy-legged amateur is hard at work before an "Adoration of the Magi," by Rubens. His manipulation is most creditable. Judging from a distance, I should say this earnest student will make a good copy, and will advance in his art. Chilvern looks over his shoulder—quite bends over him. I think the little man rather resents this, as he shakes his head sharply, and a slip of the brush is the result. Instead of begging his pardon and taking off his hat politely, Chilvern observes to him, with a wink, "Hallo, Cimabue, Junior, you're making a nice muck of this, you are." Disgusting! The student doesn't understand English, and says so, in French.

HAPPY THOUGHT.—Leave the Gallery while Chilvern isn't looking. If he picks me up I'll take him back to the hotel and leave him there.

Lost my way. Thought I recollected the streets; ask at a shop. Will they have the goodness to show me the route to the Hôtel de St. Antoine? They understand the question in French, or they catch the name. A little woman bustles out into the street, catches me by the elbow, and gives me directions in rapid Flemish—at least, I suppose it's Flemish; if not, it's German. Parhaps German and Flemish. I thank her politely.

HAPPY THOUGHT.—Say, *Merci beaucoup*, and take off my hat. She appears dissatisfied with her own instructions, and recommences more volubly and more emphatically than before. I'm to do something "rechts," then "links."

HAPPY THOUGHT.—Watch her arms and hands. During the instructions she makes herself into sign-posts. Deduction from watching: *Rechts* is Right; *Links* is Left.

I again say, *Merci beaucoup*, salute her more profoundly than before, and she retires to the door of her shop.

As I haven't understood her in the least, what is the best thing to do?

HAPPY THOUGHT.—Walk straight on. I look back; she is watching my movements. I bow again, to encourage her in the idea that I have clearly comprehended everything she has been telling me.

Looking back again, I find the delay has just upset my plans. Here is Chilvern running after me, waving his umbrella and shouting, "Hi! here! stop! I say, stop."

HAPPY THOUGHT.—Better stop, as he's attracting attention, and I might be taken for a thief. "Hang Chilvern! I let him come up with me. "I'm-morrow," I tell him decidedly, "I go on to Aix, and leave you."

WHERE ARE THE PLAY WRITERS?—This brings us to ask finally, what has become of dramatic literature? Such a thing has ceased to be. In old days, a successful new play was published at a high price, and it found its not insignificant world of readers. Generally speaking, if a piece is printed now it is only to prove to the audience that the folly uttered by the actors is really set down for them by the authors. But modern audiences hardly need the assurance. They take a player is not now exposed to the peril once experienced by an Irish actor who was pelted with unsavory apples by the critics in the house. He took up a fragment of a pippin and advancing to the footlights, remarked: "I'd like to know the meaning of this. Is it intended to be personal? Do you fling it as the manner or the matter? Do you pelt me or the man who wrote the piece?" There are no critical audiences now, to do either. They sit and humbly accept offence. They endure "Formosa," and do not hiss Mr. SOTHERN for representing *David Garrick* in a mustache!

The few exceptions to this rule are too patent to need pointing out. With regard to dramatic literature, we are inclined to believe that if managers wanted it they could be supplied. But theatrical writers run in hopeless grooves, and shy at any desire to be dramatic authors, find the utmost difficulty even in "booking on." But the latter experience no novel pains. Mr. ASTLEY used to do—at least his "mantle" of a place, and to ask if it had a good name for a wall! and the superbly bland ELLISTON, who was making a fortune by DOUGLAS JERROLD'S "Black-eyed Susan," swore that such a clever young fellow deserved to be rewarded, and that something should be done for him—by his friends!—*Athenæum.*

A memorial has been sent to the Mayor of Liverpool, setting forth that in that town drunkenness has, during the present year, increased to a most alarming extent, there being 15,924 cases recorded, 4,268 in excess of last year, and double what they were in 1861.

THE POORER CLASSES.

Extent and Increase of Pauperism.

Defects of the French System of Caring for Paupers and Criminals—Proposed Remedies.

New-York has a right to be proud of the liberal provision which it makes by private munificence and public benefaction for the thousands of the poor and unfortunate among her population, but it may well be questioned whether the methods by which this bounty is applied for the relief of the necessities do not display more generosity than wisdom, a disposition to give freely rather than a willingness to do anything to ameliorate the condition of the indigent, the idle and the vicious.

THE EXTENT AND INCREASE OF PAUPERISM.

There is something alarming in the fact that while liberal provision has been made for the care and maintenance of the poor and the helpless, their number has been steadily increasing, until at the present moment one in every thirteen of the inhabitants of this city has been set down in the category of paupers. This exhibits an increase in less than forty years of more than 300 per cent, while the population has not advanced in more than one-tenth of that ratio. In this reckoning are included all those who receive aid from the public, either in the way of permanent support or temporary relief. Startled by such a revelation as this, we naturally inquired whether there is not some radical defect in our system of public charities which contributes to the deplorable result.

WHAT IS DONE BY THE PRESENT SYSTEM.

It has been estimated that not less than $3,000,000 are expended annually in this City for various charitable and philanthropic objects. To say nothing of the large amounts of money and other material aid bestowed by private generosity, or of the liberal endowment of private eleemosynary institutions, the Department of Public Charities and Correction alone disburses about $1,000,000 of the public money through the various institutions under its control. According to the present system any person who is a fit subject for the relief afforded by this department, makes application to the proper officer and is sent to one of the asylums or hospitals, or receives other aid as the case may require. The result is that instead of the disease being driven from the social system it is nursed and fostered at the public expense. The indolent and worthless flock hither to feed on our bounty, while the honest but indigent among our own citizens are not put in the way of bettering their condition, but simply taught to depend on the public institutions as an ultimate reliance.

THE TRUE METHOD

of dealing both with the pauper and criminal classes is one which looks to such an elevation and improvement of their character and condition that they can and will provide for their own wants by the labor of their own hands. The only persons for whom public institutions should be provided or public money appropriated are those who, from physical or mental incapacity, are unable in any situation to provide for themselves, and at the same time have no friends who can assume that duty. Those who are ignorant should have the means of enlightenment, not of support in their ignorance. Those who only need employment which they cannot obtain, should be removed to localities where labor is in demand instead of being encouraged to live in idleness. Those who are vicious and lazy should, under the combined influence of coercion and encouragement, be induced to leave off preying upon others, and devote themselves to their own independent support. And above all, those who are merely in danger of becoming paupers and criminals, should be rescued from that peril and placed in the way of industry and virtue. It would cost much less, both in effort and in money, to furnish the conditions and the facilities to make respectable citizens out of the sons of poverty, than to punish and support them when they have become criminals and paupers.

HOW THE REMEDY IS TO BE APPLIED.

There are two ways of attaining this object, both of which have been greatly neglected while we have been building our asylums and making our private and public donations for the encouragement of want and misery. The first is to provide for the poor the means of improving their condition where they now are, and the other is to remove them to more favorable surroundings in other localities. In other words, we must bring better conditions and more favorable circumstances to them, or in lieu thereof where better conditions and more favorable circumstances already exist.

MORE AGENCIES NEEDED.

A beginning has been already made in establishing those agencies which are all-important, important beyond all computation in dollars and cents, for the elevation and improvement of those who are born within the purlieus of poverty, ignorance and vice. Of course every effort to render our common school system more complete and effective is an effort in their behalf, and therefore an effort in behalf of the general welfare of the community. The free schools of the Cooper Union and of the mission stations do something for them, and a few meagre libraries and reading rooms have been provided by the contributions of private benevolence, but no adequate means is employed to raise the degraded classes, and to rescue their offspring from the slums of vice and the dens of crime. We make liberal expenditures to punish them when they become criminals, and to support them when they become paupers, but do next to nothing to prevent them from reaching those conditions, where the direct expense which they entail upon the public treasury is but a tithe of the mischief they cause the community. A plan should be devised whereby the powerful and comprehensive workings of public agencies could be brought to bear in this matter, in addition to the restricted efforts of private charity. Industrial schools for the boys and girls of the streets might well become prominent features of our school system, and those structures which are made irksome prisons for children for six hours each day, should be thronged the day and the evening cheerful resorts for the improvement and the real culture of those who must look to the public schools for the means of without them altogether. And, then, a good general library for the free use of the people of this City is an institution which is yet anxiously looked for. One good library has been founded by the benefaction of a private individual, and yet nearly the twelfth portion of the population which it is conducted. Three-quarters of all the hours in the year, and those including *all* the leisure time of the people, its doors are closed, and hence its volumes stand in goodly ranks as if the building were a tomb consecrated for the repose of dead authors. Instead of which it should be a means of diffusing knowledge and education among the people. Libraries, reading rooms, lectures and all the appliances of popular education should be supplied at the public expense on a scale commensurate with the wants of the people.

LABOR BUREAUX.

But the first great want of the indigent is the means of obtaining a livelihood. Thousands are thrown upon the crumbs of charity, mere in the Almshouse, because they cannot or do not find employment, when all the while there is plenty of work to do. Already a free Labor Bureau has been established in the Department of Public Charities and Corrections, and is doing a good work. Still more needs to be done in the same direction. Give the people employment, and then afford them the means of mental and moral improvement, and you transform them from a dangerous and uncontrollable rabble to a body of industrious and respectable citizens. This brings us to a plan which is occupying the attention of some of our most philanthropic citizens, for a

BUREAU OF INFORMATION, STATISTICS AND REMOVAL.

An agency of this kind was proposed some two years ago by a committee of the Citizens' Association, to be established by the Commissioners of Charities and Correction for the purpose of disseminating at the labor market of the West the surplus laboring population, or what should be laboring population, of this metropolis. The scheme contemplates the establishment of a Bureau through which communication could be kept up with the officials of the cities and towns of the West, and the names and qualifications of persons desirous of obtaining employment could be received and recorded. In this way the demand for labor in the new States could be supplied from the population of the Atlantic States. Western towns could have their depots for the distribution of labor, receiving constant supplies to order from the East, and the large cities of the Atlantic board could send the streams of population which are too apt to flow into the depths of their lowest slums over the prairies and the valleys of the Mississippi region, there to become independent and self-respecting men and women, instead of criminals and paupers. The great idea of enabling the poor to take care of themselves instead of taking care of them, would then be realized. This, we are assured, is not merely a visionary scheme, like so many which are talked of and speculated, but one easy about to be taken to carry it into operation. This whole question of dealing with the classes of our population which make prisons and almshouses, those insults to humanity, a necessary evil, deserves the serious attention of our legislators and philanthropists.

CURRENT NOTES.

One Democrat in the Ohio Legislature, it is claimed, will vote upon and vote for the resolution of the Fifteenth Amendment.

Many Tennesseans are removing to Arkansas with their families, to engage in the cultivation of cotton.

Massachusetts is attempting to shorten the length of its legislative sessions by limiting the pay of the members to $500.

Hon. GEORGE W. JULIAN's physician says he must have absolute rest from business or care of any kind—that his life depends upon it.

Two hundred negroes left Lynchburg, Va., on Wednesday, for Georgia and Alabama, and one hundred and fifty on Thursday.

Mr. HUGH BLAIR GRIGSBY has been elected President of the Virginia Historical and Philosophical Society. The Society is considering the expediency of issuing a periodical publication.

A Minnesota juror addressed a note to the Judge in which he styled him: "Onarable jug." He evidently knew he was entitled to a handle to his name.

Hon. GEORGE H. PENDLETON has accepted an invitation to deliver the annual oration before the Literary Societies of the University of Virginia, in July.

Wild pigeons so darkened the air in Morgan County, Tenn., one day last week, that the negroes, young and old, thought the world was coming to an end sure.

A Democratic politician of influence in Tennessee predicts that the State Constitutional Convention will be a sensible and moderate body, and not interfere with colored suffrage.

The Maryland Historical Society has appointed a committee of twelve to attend Mr. PEABODY's funeral, and a committee of three to prepare a suitable memoir.

A lady repeated a hymn in Arabic at a recent gathering in Boston, and so astonished a reporter that he even misspelled her name, and felt called upon to make an explanation in the next paper.

A Massachusetts paper reports that a lady who died in Boston several years ago "could not get her will carried out till lately." We fear her efforts in that direction were not sufficiently spirited.

Connecticut does not yet despair of its ice crop. It proudly points to the fact that a few years ago not a pound was harvested in Southern and Eastern Connecticut till March, and then the crop was good.

General BRADLEY T. JOHNSTON has recently paid into the Virginia State Treasury the sum of $58,000, collected by him as agent of the State, to adjust its claims in the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad Company. The money has been placed to the credit of the Board of Public Works.

The New-Orleans *Times* says good citizens will not object to the raid contemplated by the Revenue Bureau upon the gambling houses there, but says the Government must move quickly, as the sand good citizens have solemnly determined the gigantic curse shall not blot the good name of their city for another year, no matter at what cost it has to be obliterated.

Governor FLANDERS, of Washington Territory, denies that he vetoed 105 bills during the recent session of the Legislature. He says the number was only 104, and he explains that of these only three were new laws, the others being old laws reenacted for the purpose of having them printed at the expense of the General Government.

Governor BOWIE, of Maryland, insists that that State has a just and strong claim upon the United States for the value of her emancipated slaves, and he suggests that the Legislature adopt resolutions respectfully but firmly demanding compensation at the earliest date that the exigencies of the National Treasury will allow.

The Brooklyn *Union* indorses the suggestion made in the TIMES, that District Attorney MORRIS should move for a return of the election fraud cases to the Court of Sessions. The *Union* says Mr. MORRIS should pursue this course, because, first, it will actually promote the speediness of the trials; and, secondly, because it will afford Mr. MORRIS an opportunity to give the public all the information it is proper to give them in a way to which no one can object.

A Southern critic has decided that Mr. STOWE's poems, or many of them, are "excellent things in their way, but not peculiarly excellent. There is," he goes on to say, "a certain gold in these poems, that is neither the prosaic merely, nor the common place merely, but (the necessity for a new word is absolute) a something Tupperesque." Mr. DAVENANT has caught this idea at last, "a something Tupperesque."

Speaking of murderers who are not unprepossessing in their personal appearance, the Terre Haute (Ind.) *Express* says that the most cold-blooded murder it ever heard of was committed by the handsomest man, the most elegant "gentleman," the greatest favorite with the ladies, that could be found in a circuit of fifty miles; and that there was not a family in the county that would not have been glad to welcome him as a relative by marriage up to the very hour when his awful crime was exposed.

Rip Van Winkle in Court—Suit Against the Chicago Opera House Company.

From the Chicago Republican, Jan. 4.

In the United States Court yesterday a bill was filed by JOSEPH JEFFERSON against C. D. HESS and U. H. CROSBY, of the Opera House in this city, the complaint being based upon the alleged unauthorized production by the defendants, last October, of the play owned by complainant and known as "Rip Van Winkle."

The bill of complaint sets forth that complainant has ever been and is now a resident of the United States; that he has been for twenty-five years an actor, and to some extent a dramatic author. He alleges that for nearly twenty years there has been in print a play known as "Rip Van Winkle," and founded upon WASHINGTON IRVING's well-known sketch, said play having become public property, and sometimes known as a MCKEEVER play, sometimes as a BURNS's version. In 1860, Mr. JEFFERSON states, he determined to play the part of *Rip Van Winkle*, when, not liking the character as it was represented in the old play, he wrote for himself a new version, differing widely from the one then in existence, and from the known manuscript, played the part in various parts of the United States until 1865, without, however, availing himself of the benefit of the copyright act. During all this time he devoted himself to the close study of the character which he had almost made his own. Friends and acquaintances suggested themselves to his mind be from time to time changed and altered his manuscript. In 1865 complainant believed he made his impersonation of *Rip Van Winkle* attractive and successful, having perfected it to his own partial satisfaction, and, as he had reason to believe, to that of the public also. He therefore determined to embody all the ideas that his study and experience had taught him in a new play, and being in London at the time, engaged DION L. BOUCICAULT to write him (it embodying into language the dialogues, incidents, ideas, scenes and sentiments devised by him. The result of his contract was the present play of "Rip Van Winkle," which it is claimed differs materially from all others of the same name, and, indeed, from the original sketch of WASHINGTON IRVING. The bill further alleges that on the 26th of August, 1865, before any public representation of the piece had been given, Mr. JEFFERSON copyrighted the play in the Southern District of New-York, where he then resided, as co-author and proprietor.

Complainant charges that the play thus made and copyrighted by him has never been published, either by him or by Mr. BOUCICAULT, or by any other person with their knowledge or consent; that the character of *Rip Van Winkle*, as therein represented, was designed only for him, and not for general representation upon the stage, and that the piece was never written for publication.

Mr. JEFFERSON states that on one occasion only he licensed any person to present the play, and that on that occasion the license was given to a personal friend, but was not acted upon.

In 1866, after the copyright had been taken out, complainant produced the play in London, and afterwards in several cities of the United States, where, by reason of his labor and study in developing and representing the character, he has succeeded in making the play attractive to the public and remunerative to himself. All the time he kept the play in manuscript or in separate, detached printed slips for the use of the actors having parts to study, said slips always being controlled by him. Complainant avers that he has never given a copy of any one of these to any person, and if any such copy has been obtained by any one, it has been gained by fraudulent or surreptitious means, by the aid of a conspiracy at the representation, or by the theft of the parts.

It is further stated in the bill that Mr. JEFFERSON has paid Mr. BOUCICAULT, for his interest in the production, the sum of $10,000, and that he has always had the exclusive right to produce the play, which he now claims by virtue of his copyright, his authorship, his ownership, and his common law proprietary right.

The bill alleges that D. C. HESS & CO. produced the play above mentioned ten times at the Opera House in this city without license, and against complainant's will; that such production was not from the memory of the actors who had witnessed the performance, but from a copy of the play surreptitiously obtained. Further, that for the purpose of obtaining this unauthorized representation of complainant's play, the names of some of the characters were changed upon the play bill or programme, but that in the representation the dialogue of the play was used, and the names of Mr. JEFFERSON's characters almost entirely adopted.

The bill prays for an injunction to prevent any further representation of the piece without license, and that defendants be required to account for the profits of such illegal representations, or that at least they may be decreed to pay the statutory penalty of $50 for the first and $10 for each of the succeeding representations, as well as to surrender up all copies of the play they may have.

THE STORY OF A TRAPPER.

An Eventful Life in Russia and America Closed by a Lonely Death in the Wilderness.

Correspondence of the St. Paul (Minn.) Pioneer.

VICTOR DAUN, or more familiarly known by many of the residents of Stillwater as "Old Moscow," the subject of this sketch, was by birth a Russian, having been born in the year 1796, near the River Moskwa, in the vicinity of the City of Moscow. In 1812, being then a boy sixteen years of age, he was conscripted and forced into the Russian army then actively engaged fighting the legions of NAPOLEON; he was present and took part in the battle of Borodino, and afterwards fought the French on the memorable retreat from the Russian capital. He witnessed the conflagration of Moscow, and followed the eagles of the French in their disastrous retreat towards the Nieman. It was a favorite theme for the old man to describe the scenes he underwent during that terrible campaign; how, morning after morning, the French soldiers would be found dead upon the bivouac fire, lying in the position in which the sleep of death overtook them during the night.

A cross of the Legion of Honor, taken by him from the dead body of a French officer at the battle of the Bierzina, the old man was wont to wear in the habit of exhibiting, and while looking at it would exclaim: "How I did pity the poor French!" He used to say Winter came on early that year (in October) as a punishment to BONAPARTE. Leaving the army after the captivity of the French Eagles, VICTOR came to Quebec, and afterwards was for many years in the service of the Hudson Bay Company.

Some twelve years ago he came to Stillwater, where he used to fit out each Winter for his trapping expeditions on the head waters of the Saint Croix and Chippewa Rivers. It was a singular sight to see the old man as he set out on foot, staring out in the Fall to his Winter quarters. With his uncouth-looking little mule laden with traps, kettles, cooking utensils and other camping apparatus, until scarcely any mule but ears were visible, followed by the old pointer dog, Moses, in single file, this strange cavalcade would take up the line of march, to be seen no more until the melting of the snows in the Spring.

In the early part of the present Winter the spot selected by the old trapper for his Winter's abode was on the borders of a small stream known as Trade River, a tributary of the Upper St. Croix, and it proved "the last earthly habitation" he would ever require.

Recently an exploring party in that vicinity were attracted to the hut by the mournful howling of a dog. Guided by the sound, their steps were directed to the cabin, where a strange, and sad sight met their gaze. Inside of the door stood a diminutive mule, nearly dead with hunger. Beside him sat the dog, who on the approach of the men, ran into the cabin as though to apprise his master that help was near. But no earthly assistance could avail his master. Sitting in a corner rigid in death, was poor old VICTOR, a fixed expression of agony upon his face, in his right hand he held a large clasp knife, while across his knees partially finished lay a gun rod. His gun, with the ramrod broken, stood near him; at his feet lay a trap with an otter held in it.

Placing the body upon the bed and arranging it as decently as circumstances would admit for burial, a careful examination of the clothing and effects was made, resulting in finding memorandum of his age, place of birth, religion, (Catholic,) together with a statement to the effect that he had a sum of money concealed, and in case of his death, whoever should take care of him during his sickness should find his body after death, should get the money, as a sufficient sum to give his body proper burial, and retain the balance; that as he had spent his life in the forest, he wished to lie there after death.

Attached to a rosary above the rack was found the Cross of the Legion of Honor," so long worn by the old soldier in remembrance of the bloody days subsequent to the burning of Moscow.

On examination of the place designated in the memorandum, a sum of money in gold was found, but small, it not being equal to expectation. The money, however, was duly buried near the old pine tree at the crossing of Trade River, many miles from the stirring scenes of his early life. The two faithful companions who shared his wanderings are properly cared for, and many of those who in times past have listened to the old man as he grew eloquent when recounting his past history, will learn with regret the sad termination of the lonely life of "Old Moscow, the trapper."

STILLWATER, Dec. 31, 1869.

The Balloon Ascension at Atlanta—A Narrow Escape.

From the Atlanta (Ga.) Constitution, Jan. 2.

Notwithstanding the character of the weather yesterday afternoon, the balloon arose at 3:40 o'clock. It went up with great rapidity to the height of about a mile, when, owing to some defect, the balloon collapsed. With great presence of mind, Dr. HAPE drew the cords tightly together, thus doubling the ends of the balloon together, and preventing the too rapid escape of the gas remaining. The balloon descended rapidly, and struck in a briar patch about two and a half miles from here, near the Marietta road. The Doctor received several bruises and scratches on the head, face and arms, but no serious injury. Professor GUERICO did not come up with him. The cause of the collapse of the balloon we did not learn. Under the circumstances the escape of Dr. HAPE is truly fortunate. Parties throughout the city saw the balloon rise up and go off gracefully, then suddenly collapse and descend. Every one feared that the daring aeronaut was killed. Hundreds came to the distillery branch for a mile or so to see if they could find him. There were several thousand people on Marietta street to witness the ascension.

A Strange Scene in the Capitol of Maine—A Lady Attempts to Sell the State—Singular Conduct of Legislators.

Correspondence of the Portland Argus.

AUGUSTA, Me., Wednesday, Jan. 5, 1870.

There was a singular and unfortunate scene occurred this morning at the State House. Mrs. JANE P. THURSTON, of Portland, had caused notice of a sale of the State of Maine, its rights, appurtenances, &c., to be posted up on the doors of the State House, and a little before 10 o'clock she ascended the Speaker's rostrum and proceeded in a manner worthy of HENRY BAILEY in his palmiest days to sell the State. One Senator bid $15,000,000, and another $17,000,000. A Representative bid $20,000,000, till at last the made one better and struck it of to herself and took her seat in the Speaker's chair, as the owner of the State, but the time for the opening of the session had now arrived, and Mrs. THURSTON was politely requested to come down from her position, but she declined to do so, saying she had bought in the State and must sit there and hear her position. The Clerk of the House of Representatives, presiding, then promptly ordered the messengers to take her out *vi et armis*. A scene of great confusion ensued. Mrs. THURSTON declared that she would not remove from her place, and especially that she would not be removed by force. Two messengers secured her, and endeavored to remove her. She made considerable resistance, and said that she would move if the officers would let her alone, but the latter were again ordered by the Clerk to clear the floor and procure order, so that the organization of the House might be proceeded with. The members, then, at her request, allowed Mrs. THURSTON to go out quietly. Some members began to be greatly excited, and the Sergeant was decidedly unpleasant all around. It was indeed and to see a woman in so humiliating a position. She grasped the face of one of the messengers very fiercely, and only through the interposition of Mr. VERROL, of Gray, and some other gentlemen of Portland, Mrs. THURSTON was at last persuaded to retire to the Secretary's room and the organization was proceeded with, but the unpleasant feeling was so great that the prayer of Rev. Mr. BRIGHAM, which was the first service of the organization, was hardly listened to, in spirit at least. By degrees the feeling subsided, but before the morning session closed the subject was taken up at every dinner table in town, and the matter was universally regretted by all as a very unfortunate circumstance, because the subject of it was a woman, and one who is deemed to be tempered upon one subject, although perfectly sane upon all others.

Mrs. THURSTON was afterward invited to go to dinner at the Central House by Colonel DREW, Secretary of State, who said that Mr. HARRIS, the polite Superintendent of the State Buildings, should be kept in as keeper of the State property in trust for Mrs. THURSTON, or the rightful owner thereof. We saw Mrs. THURSTON in the State Library in the afternoon, still looking up legal authorities, and friends tried to persuade her to return home to-morrow.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO OFFICE.

The Custom Half a Century Ago—Letter from William Wirt.

The Springfield (Ill.) *Journal* publishes the subjoined extracts from a letter written by Hon. WILLIAM WIRT, while Attorney-General of the United States, to Governor EDWARDS, of that city:

[Extracts from a letter from WILLIAM WIRT, Attorney-General of the United States, Jan. 30, 1824, to HINSON EDWARDS, Senator in Congress for Illinois.]

"I do not understand that the Presidents feels himself bound by the recommendations of the Delegates from the State to whom the office is to be held, even when the Senators concur. In such a case he has great respect to their opinion; but he considers himself at perfect liberty to set a different character in nomination, without giving just cause of offence to him. The Constitutional act of nomination is his; the responsibility is his; he ought to be free, therefore, to nominate whom he pleases. Were he bound by the joint recommendation of the Senators, the Senators would cease to be the act of the President; it would, in fact, be that of the Senators, while by the Constitution, the responsibility would still rest on the President. You cannot but admit the soundness of this view of the subject; and I am told that the practice of the Senators is in strict conformity with it; they wait till the President calls on them, then express their opinion and retire respectfully from any further interference with the nomination, but with their full liberty to exercise their rights, in their turn, as Senators, when the nomination is sent in and they have to vote on its confirmation. * * *

The President consults the Senators as Senators, and cannot and ought not to know them individually.

The function of the Senator, called on by the President for information as to a candidate, ends when he has given that information. The act of nomination ought then, to be left free to him, and respect for him officially, if not personally, ought to forbid any complaint against him for the conscientious discharge of his constitutional duty of nominating. He has other sources of information besides the Senators, of which he is not bound to render an account.

There is, indeed, another course which he may take, and I think which he ought to take; which is to nominate no person whom either Senator shall declare unworthy of the office, if he can find a deserving man in the State free from such objection.

If I were a Senator of the United States I would act precisely as I am advising you to act. Can I say, then, that if I were called on by the President to inform him of the merits or demerits of a candidate in my State, I would inform candidly and freely; here I would stop, so far as the nomination is concerned; but if the nomination was in my opinion a wrong one, I would oppose it, might and main, in the Secret of the Senate, giving my reasons there, too, with equal frankness. Thus I would have done my duty faithfully and honestly, and if the nomination succeeded, and an improper person was thus placed in office, the people of the State would not fail to know its impropriety, nor would they fail to know my opposition to it. Thus my skirts would be clear and my name unsullied, and the discredit would recoil on those who had misled the President. Even if it should recoil on the President for confiding in their counsels, (though I would never countenance so unjust a scheme,) yet I should be free from blame and should have peace in my own heart."

FOREIGN ITEMS.

The sculptor TENERANI is dead.

Mr. A. CLINT has been elected President of the Society of British Artists.

A Miss GAR

The New-York Times.

NEW-YORK, SUNDAY, JAN. 9, 1870.

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Notice.

We cannot notice anonymous communications. In all cases we require the writer's name and address, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. We cannot return rejected communications, nor preserve unavailable, unless specially requested so to do.

To Advertisers.

Advertisers in the TIMES are requested to bring in their notices at as early an hour in the day as possible. If received after 5½ o'clock, it will be impossible to classify them under their proper heads.

☞ For the accommodation of up-town residents, advertisements for insertion in the TIMES will be received at No. 55 West 33d-st., junction of Broadway and 6th-av., at same rates as are charged at office of publication.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

EUROPE.

Somebody has started a report on the Continent that President GRANT is soon to visit the Sovereigns of Europe, making the Transatlantic voyage accompanied by a fleet of ironclads.... The chief editors of the *Rappel* ("Irreconcilable" newspaper in Paris) have been sentenced to a long imprisonment and heavy fine for violating the law relating to the public Press.... The several miners implicated for participation in the Aubin riots some time ago have been liberated by the Emperor on the petition of M. OLLIVIER.... It is reported that the French Ambassadors at London and Vienna have resigned.... The owner of the yacht *Sappho* has issued a challenge to the world to race his yacht to Sandy Hook on the Fourth of next July.... It is asserted in Paris that a compromise has been arranged at Rome on the question of infallibility; infallibility will be affirmed, but dissent from the article will be nullified.

CUBA.

Captain-General DE RODAS has issued a proclamation generally complimentary to the citizens and the army. He asserts that troops are coming from Spain to save the lives of the soldiery on the island, and not to reinforce them, as they are abundantly able to suppress the rebellion. He also declares that the Cubans are not insurgents in war only, but in incendiarism.... Fifteen more of the Spanish gunboats reached Havana on Friday, accompanied by the *Fuerro*.... The repopulation of Cuba with Spaniards is suggested by the *Voz de Cuba* newspaper, as a means of getting rid of the enemies of Spain.... The report that the Cuban Junta has hired parties to assassinate the Spanish Minister has been received in Havana.

GENERAL.

Dispatches from Havana confirm the report of the capture of Port-au-Prince. The fate of SALNAVE is unknown.

CALDWELL was discharged yesterday by Judge COURSOL, at Montreal, on the charge of MERCER, and before the warrant for his arrest on other charges was served he made his escape. This was achieved in an exceedingly bold manner. Immediately after the announcement of his discharge his counsel walked him out of the Court room, and locked the door right in the face of the High Constable, who was just behind and on the point of serving the warrant. When the door was opened he was out of sight. The Consul-General has offered a reward for his arrest.

Hon. REVERDY JOHNSON has rendered an opinion, by request, on the acts of the Maryland Legislature requiring the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company to pay into the Treasury one-fifth of the gross receipts from passenger travel over the Washington branch of their road. He declares that they are unconstitutional and void.

The anniversary of the battle of New-Orleans was little celebrated yesterday, so far as heard from. Flags were displayed, but there were no "banquets" or "orations."

Great freshets in the Province of Chiapa, Mexico, have occurred. It is reported that over two hundred lives have been lost by drowning, and that many valuable farms have been destroyed.... Fears of a general revolution in Mexico are daily increasing.

It is reported that the Argentine Minister at Washington has officially notified the State Department that the war in Paraguay is closed, and that his Government is withdrawing nearly all its troops from that country, leaving only a sufficient number to prevent uprisings.

The Indiana Democratic State Convention met at Indianapolis yesterday, and State officers were nominated. The resolutions adopted generally opposed everything that Republicans favor. The principal resolves called for the repeal of the Tariff laws, the taxing of the bonds, and the abolition of the State banking system; also, declared that the five-twenties were payable in greenbacks. Repudiation was repudiated.

President GRANT's first state dinner will occur on Wednesday next. The Cabinet and several leading members of the Senate and House will be present. The dinner to the Diplomatic Corps will be given next.

The telegraph operators' strike threatens to collapse. In several cities the operators have returned to their employment.

Messrs. FISK and GOULD, of the Erie Railway Company, were brought before the Oyer and Terminer Court in Passaic County, N. J., yesterday, on a charge of conspiring to defraud by taxing excessive rates of freight from the Rogers Locomotive Company of Paterson, for transporting locomotives. About 400 suits are to be commenced against the Erie Company for alleged overcharges for carrying freight.

In the Fourth District of this State, (Morris, Sussex, Bergen and Passaic Counties,) the internal revenue tax collected for the year 1869 amounted to $400,[illegible] in, being $10,173 68 more than was collected the previous year in the same district.

LOCAL.

Rev. Dr. ELLINGER, editor of the Jewish Times, lectured last evening before the Longfellow Literary Association on the "Rabbinical Conference," giving the substance of the doctrines held by the liberal Jews of the day.

Dr. WM. S. LANDERSEES lectured on the Woman question before the German Reading Club, last evening. He opposed giving the ballot to women.

The new Tammany Hall General Committee, elected on the 21st ult., for the ensuing year, met at the Wigwam last evening and organized by electing the same officers as last year, viz., WM. M. TWEED, Chairman, and WM. HITCHMAN, JOHN E. GREEN and JOHN HOUGHTALING, Secretaries.

Skating prospects thus far are not bright. A good "freeze" to-night may enliven them.

The charge of conspiracy to defraud, made against the Mayor of Hudson City, and which has been under investigation before Justice LEDWITH, has not been proven.

DUNN, who shot "LOGAN No. 2," is still at large. The Coroner has postponed the examination as to the cause of LOGAN's death.

In the Clark divorce suit a writ of habeas corpus has been issued by the Supreme Court, on the application of the defendant, who is the husband, for the purpose of obtaining the custody of his daughter, aged about 9 years. It is alleged that the child was unlawfully taken from him a few nights ago, through the instrumentality of the wife and mother. The hearing has been adjourned to Monday next.

Attorney-General HOAR appeared as counsel in a patent suit, before Judge BLATCHFORD, in the United States Circuit Court, in this district, yesterday.

Right Rev. Bishop POTTER will dedicate the new floating church for seamen, at the foot of Pike-street, to-day. The services will begin at 10:30 A. M.

Professor ERELL opened the animal course of free lectures at the Cooper Institute last evening. His subject was "Animal Life." Hon. HORACE GREELEY lectured at Steinway Hall on "Self-made Men," in aid of the fund for destitute ex-soldiers.

Three burglars (nine-year olds) have been put in charge of the Commissioners of Charities and Correction.

The National Land Company of this City have sold 48,000 acres of Kansas lands to a Scotch Emigration Company.

The light on Little Gull Island has been raised from a third to a second-class, and a second assistant keeper added. CHAS. SHUMAN, of Sag Harbor, has been appointed to the position.

The Police made the following arrests for the past week: Saturday, Jan. 1, 203; Sunday, Jan. 2, 85; Monday, Jan. 3, 203; Tuesday, Jan. 4, 176; Wednesday, Jan. 5, 145; Thursday, Jan. 6, 163; Friday, Jan. 7, 193. Total, 1,213.

Haytien Tidings—"Self-Immolation" of Salnave and the San-Domingo Treaty.

All news from "our future possessions," as the papers now call the isle of Hayti, have become very interesting, of late, to the American people; and yet hapless is the man that expects to find in this news the slightest congruity or coherence. Ten days ago we had SALNAVE rampant and revengeful; five days ago we had him a fugitive from his capital, which SAGET had entered triumphantly on the 19th of December, "without a shot being fired;" later we learned that the Cacos "are besieging Port-au-Prince, and have made a breach in SALNAVE's lines." Why, on the 23d of December, should the Cacos besiege a city of which on the 19th they "took unresisted possession of every point, the entire city being speedily in their hands." These are among the dark mysteries of Haytien tidings. The probable supposition is that, since the conclusion of our own war left him without business, the "reliable gentleman" has gone to Hayti to report matters there. He has since been joined by the "intelligent contraband," who, like Othello, (also an intelligent contraband,) finding "his occupation gone," has established himself at Port-au-Prince; and hence St. Marc news regularly and assiduously tell us things which St. Thomas news equally regularly and assiduously contradict. Is SALNAVE in Port-au-Prince, or pent up in Fort National, or has he "retreated to Fort Petion, where he fired the magazine, and, with his fourteen sons, perished?" Or has he got "fourteen sons?" If he have, then like Samson, he may be said to have destroyed more at a blow, by his death, than throughout his lifetime. Or, "later and more probable," has he "fled to San Domingo," and claimed the protection of BAEZ?

It is a queer kettle of fish, this of the Antilles, and its chief occupation seems to be in passing between the frying pan and the fire. The acquisition of Louisiana and Florida and Alaska was all a straight piece of work for us, but our interference in the West Indies has stirred up an amount of effervescence quite puzzling. The whole pot of the Gulf is boiling, and every island in it is fervid with the prospect of annexation. We began with St. Thomas, and went far enough with it to separate it from the parent country, and yet not far enough to bring it into the Union. Hayti is in commotion between SAGET and SALNAVE, of whom the latter favors annexation, and the former opposes. BAEZ and CABRAL have slain hecatombs of victims, if we may believe them, in settling the same question. Cuba has been long afflicted with insurrection, more or less connected with the same matter. Our relations with all these little domains have certainly not been thus far of the most satisfactory sort, either to them or to us. We do not say this in any tone of criticism, and, on the contrary, the reason of these uncertain and shifting relations is manifest. While the islands have been made aware that their commercial and possibly political connection with the great, overshadowing Republic must soon become more fixed, we on our side have been hampered by domestic affairs of greater importance. The war and the results of the war, the disturbance in finance, the problems of reconstruction, the necessity for economy—these and the other familiar difficulties prevent either the Government or the people from paying that direct and primary attention to West Indian affairs which would be necessary for their shortest and best solution.

It seems clear, however, that when the time shall arrive for decision, there need be no trouble with our West Indian policy. For example, we originally started with the desire to possess a port in the Gulf—a necessity for us in peace or war, as a centre of naval repair, as well as an *entrepôt* of commerce. The St. Thomas negotiations were the first began. There seems to be a general opinion prevalent that, legal and constitutional rights apart, there is here an *obligation d'honneur* to be discharged. Besides, "St. Thomas," once said Admiral PORTER, "is the keystone to the arch of the West Indies; it commands them all. It is of more importance to us than to any other nation." And the same distinguished authority says: "Its people have always been our friends. During the rebellion, when all the ports of the French and British West India Islands were closed against us, St. Thomas furnished our vessels with supplies of all kinds, gave us information, and turned the cold shoulder to the rebel cruiser."

The question of St. Thomas, therefore, stands by itself. We next approach Samana. Here the sentiment of the people is divided. Nevertheless, as we have repeatedly said, BAEZ is sufficiently President for us to deal with him, and our Commissioners, Generals INGALLS, BABCOCK and SACKET, have made a treaty with him respecting the rental of the Bay of Samana, and another and more important treaty for acquiring the whole Dominican Republic, and making it a Territory of the United States. Should this last treaty be approved by the Senate, Hayti will probably follow San Domingo into the Union.

The Telegraphers Strike Again.

We are reluctant to again offer a few words upon the telegraphers' strike, but duty and good feeling alike refuse us the privilege of silence. Are, then, the employes of the Western Union Company, who have thrown up their situations, aware of the real nature of the movement in which they have been driven to participate? Nor in the word "driven" inappropriate to the situation, for the "League" appears to exercise as absolute control over the telegraphers as could any tyrannical system on earth. The case, however, is tolerably clear by this time, and will be understood as follows:

A secret society—not, be it observed, an open and above-board trades' union or protective society—is organized for the purpose of secretly controlling the telegraphing business of this country, and of taking possession of the individual rights and liberties of all the operators. To show the true meaning and intent of this design, it is only necessary to say that the rules require each member to take an oath to perform his whole duty to his employers, "provided he does not conflict with a duly authorized order from the chief of the circuit to which he belongs." He must further not obey an order from his employer to remove to some new station without permission from the said chief. The oath further provides that the member shall make common cause with the League, and "forsaking your allegiance to corporations or individuals," be at the disposal of the officers of the League. The operators have thus joined an organization which in reality takes away every shred of independence which they ever possessed. It places them entirely at the mercy of men who are in effect irresponsible, and may order suspension of work, and perhaps the acceptance of poverty, at their own will and pleasure.

Of course the promoters of the strike claim that there was cause for their action—but what does the claim amount to when thoroughly sifted? The San Francisco office was oversupplied with operators, and some reorganization was resorted to, as would be the case in any other business. Upon such occasions salaries come of course under revision, as well as positions. Mr. JACOBS was found to be unnecessary and was dispensed with. A new scale of salaries was framed, by which some were reduced, but several increased. Upon this, Mr. JACOBS wrote what was untrue, that reductions were taking place on the Pacific Coast, and implying that resistance was called for. And upon this slender thread the whole case for the operators hangs.

Now, it must be evident that a League under whose influence hundreds of deserving men and women can be thrown upon the world, almost without warning, can be no friend to the operators. Still less can the latter expect that the business can continue to be embarrassed by the possibility of future obstructions at the dictation of a secret committee. We are glad to see that the Telegraph Company is willing to forget the past, and to receive and protect their absent employes—a fact which ought to dispose of all charges of injustice or ill-feeling toward them. Their real friends will counsel them to end this ill-judged proceeding, and vindicate their own dignity by throwing off allegiance, not to their employers and their profession, but to a League which ought never to have been countenanced.

Hindrances to the Success of American Labor.

It cannot be too often pressed upon those who lead and represent the opinions of the mechanical industrial classes of this country, that there is a great and growing evil which is already working to their disadvantage, and will, if not checked, be much more so in the future. We refer to the complaints of the character of much American workmanship. The same thing is to be heard on all sides. The faithful performance of mechanical labor is less and less common. The chief aims appear to be that the work shall be got through with and the money speedily gained. Whether the result is inferiority or not is of little consequence. And the effect of this is that foreign articles are more and more preferred, whether they be small or great, important or of little value.

It is not difficult to indicate some of the causes which have produced this undesirable state of things. One is that our workingmen, while they have entered into very perfect organizations for the protection of labor, have failed to appreciate the fact that no organization whatever can control the freedom of selection by purchasers. A whole trade of a nation may be united to a man to enforce a certain regulation as to hours of work, or the rate of wages; but nothing can make the hoped-for customer buy what he does not approve, nor, even in case of contracts, can they lead to others if the spirit as well as the letter of their execution be not studied. The question, therefore, is, not whether trades' unions are in one sense useful to their members, but whether they are not allowed to divert attention from dangers which may ultimately prove the destruction of the trades themselves.

One reason for modifications of our tariff system is that, in its present condition, it hinders competition. The conclusion that it does this is indisputable. But there are other elements besides protective duties which affect competition. Why should it be so often forgotten that excellence of workmanship is one of these? Suppose, for example, that duties which stand in the way of the manufacture of machines were lowered so much that, as respects cost of material, we were on a par with other nations. Suppose, even further, that wages in both cases were equal. There still remain comparisons of degree of finish and durability, which must inevitably influence the choice of the purchaser. If, then, a union, by classing all grades of training and skill under one rule of payment, has but lowered the general standard of those qualities, who will be the gainer in the end? Not that the union may not have done good service of one sort, but may it not have neglected another quite as important service?

The same remarks are applicable to domestic trades in no infrequent cases. People are not buying much building property just now, whatever they may be doing in a little while. But when they are buying, what is the common observation by many who would build but do not? They say that they cannot trust the workmen to do their work thoroughly. From basement to roof the duty of giving fair labor for fair pay is neglected, and the result is a structure which before long costs as much for repairs as it would have cost in the shape of rent. Even the contractor cannot prevent this, unless he stand behind the workmen all day, which he is hardly likely to do. Naturally, very many people are deterred from this kind of investment. And when added to willful neglect or idleness, it is found that the bricklayer is little versed in the art of making mortar that will stick, or of rearing a wall that shall be tight and plumb straight; that the carpenter is about fit to make a packing case; that the painter may be some dauber who never learned his trade, the evils are increased, and he who would have a house built for himself is too shy of the fate of others to be caught himself. And if he go to a building speculator for a house already built, he finds the case, if possible, still worse, for to the incompetence of the artisan will have been added all the speculator's stinting of material and its good quality. These are but few cases in point as affecting the whole question of labor and competition. We would see the latter aided by elevation of the former. The times are coming when money will not be so recklessly flung away upon poor workmanship as it has been. Let our workingmen take heed that their ability and industry do not further deteriorate, but rather be improved by every possible means.

The Story of Pompeii.

Most people know that Pompeii was buried by a volcanic eruption A. D. 79, and that, long centuries after, certain exhumations were made leading to archæological discoveries surpassing for interest any of which the modern world has record. But comparatively few are aware that since the Italian revolution of 1860 more has been learned of the unfortunate city than perhaps had accumulated during all the preceding years since the catastrophe. Light follows liberty, and one of the first acts of the new Government was that of appointing Signor FIORELLI inspector of the excavations, with facilities no similar official had before enjoyed. This gentleman, who has the rare fortune to unite the culture of a scholar with the practical energy of a good business man, soon had a large force busily at work. No fewer than 700 men have sometimes been working under his orders, and the results have been most propitious. The chronicle of previous work is brief enough, and may be mentioned by way of contrast with that of the last decade. In the year B. C. 63, a premonitory earthquake had desolated Pompeii. It had destroyed several temples, the great Basilica, the colonnade of the Forum and other important buildings, besides others of lesser note. The people fled, but subsequently returned and bent themselves to the task of restoration. Building was a slower process then than now, but the Temples of Venus and Jupiter, of Isis and of Fortune, all went up again, and Pompeii, if somewhat debased architecturally, was more showy and luxurious than ever. The Emperor TITUS seemed to have thought it a pity all this splendor should be lost, but the Senators he sent to view the site and estimate the expense of digging the town free of its terrible incubus of ashes, were frightened by the magnitude of the task, and the idea was abandoned. Thus in time the very place where Pompeii had stood was forgotten.

Towards the end of the sixteenth century an aqueduct from the Sarno to Torre dell' Annunziata was carried straight through the heart of the buried city, following streets and piercing walls. Yet no one said aught of Pompeii, and it was not until 1748, under CHARLES III., after the world had been excited by the discovery of Herculaneum, that a certain prying engineer, ALCUBIERA by name, got the royal permission to excavate near the site of the former place, and began to find out what was hidden there. Even then neither this adventurer nor others mentioned Pompeii. They thought he was working over Stabiæ. Little was done at this or any time under the Bourbons. The men in charge would occasionally find something, and then, for the most part, would cover it up again, so that on the visit of some royal or other distinguished personage they might flatter their visitor by pretending to make a surprising discovery in his presence. When the Bonaparte prostrated the Bourbons early in the nineteenth century the energy of the Republic of '99 was in a manner prefigured. CAROLINE, NAPOLEON's sister and MURAT's Queen, was enthusiastically interested in the works and caused them to be energetically advanced. The Bourbons returned and all stood still again until the cry of free Italy was heard, and with VICTOR EMMANUEL came FIORELLI. Since then, as we have said, the ground over Pompeii has been worked with almost as much vigor and eagerness as the gold diggings of California; and since then, consequently, the returns have been commensurate with the investment of capital and labor.

Streets, houses, theatres, have one by one been exhumed, inscriptions deciphered, trinkets, coins and household utensils collected, jars of cosmetics and phials of medicine, and lately even such ordinarily perishable things as loaves of bread. Eighty-one of these have been discovered by FIORELLI in a single oven—the place having been so sealed that no ashes entered it, and the bread was found exactly in the order in which it was placed on that dreadful 23d of November, '79, when the fierce strife of the gladiators at the Amphitheatre was interrupted by the lava storm from Vesuvius. All sorts of things have been found, unthought of even at the time the admirable copies of Pompeian architecture, &c., were constructed at the Crystal Palace at Sydenham. Posters bearing notices to vote for such an one for *ædile*, love messages written on back walls, articles of female apparel or ornament, paintings in full preservation, poor animals held fast by chains which prevented their escape from the burning destruction, and so dying where they stood, and more still, human prisoners in the gladiators' barracks immovably riveted by the ankles to iron racks. Of course only the skeletons of these remained; but if no human form, rounded as in life, has been discovered, there has been found what is so precisely like it as to be no less mournfully impressive. We are told by M. MOMMSEN—a French writer who has published this and other cognate information in an interesting monograph—that recently, in a small street under heaps of rubbish, the workmen perceived an empty space, at the bottom of which were some bones. Signor FIORELLI, who was at once called, had a luminous idea. He made them mix plaster, and poured it into the hollow as in a cast. The operation was repeated in other instances close by. Afterwards, the crust of pumice stone and hardened ashes was carefully removed. When this was done, four apparently perfect human bodies lay calmly below. Their flesh had sustained their hot shroud of ashes until it had cooled and crusted, and as that flesh had withered away the spaces had been left which FIORELLI now so ingeniously filled.

How Fires Originate.

An examination of the official reports of the known causes of fires, impresses a belief that although carelessness of occupants usually comprises the largest numbers in the lists, a heading of simple "carelessness" would with equal propriety embrace nearly all. The fault may, perhaps, date as far back as the actual construction of the building. Such was the conclusion of the long and scientific investigation into the origin of the burning of a bonded warehouse and millions of dollars' worth of whisky in Philadelphia during last Summer. Though current theories had assigned other causes, such as escape of illuminating gas and the presence of the vapor of whisky, it was eventually ascertained that there had been previously a partial breakdown under the accumulation of storage, and the liquor from broken casks finding its way to the cellar, ignited there from the boiler fires. The downfall of a building constructed too slenderly for the strain imposed upon it almost invariably results in a fire, and it is possible that in some instances where the cause of fire yet remains unknown an unobserved subsidence of floors or walls may have immediately preceded the conflagration.

A cornice of wood, where the rest of a building is of comparatively incombustible materials, occasions an exposure that no considerations of economy can justify. In a majority of instances where one building takes fire from another, the communication is effected by means of the cornice, its position and prominence serving to catch either flames from below or sparks from above. Zinc cornices are comparatively recent, and if not open to the objections urged against lead and zinc roofs,—that they endanger life by melting during fires,—may be substituted for wood with great advantage. The use of iron in the construction of buildings is noticeably increasing. Baseboards or wainscots, and the frames of doors and windows, if not the doors and sashes, will some day be made of metal. There is no reason why Venetian blinds could not be so constructed, with greater lightness and less cost than those now in use. But a great reduction of the annual losses by fire will be effected whenever a cheap and unobjectionable mode of rendering fireproof all the wood used in building shall be invented and generally adopted.

Several of the improvements introduced into buildings in recent years have rather tended to increase than diminish risks. Comparatively few fires occur from chimney flues. A greater number, though still an inconsiderable percentage, are caused by stove-pipes. But steampipes and hot-air registers are among the frequent occasions. Yet all of these have a tendency to reduce the wood, near which they pass, to the consistence of tinder. It has been demonstrated, both in this and other countries, that wood in this condition may take fire even from the heat communicated to steampipes, under the high pressure of steam required for lofty buildings; and, of course, hot air or smoke flues in close proximity to wood, are far more dangerous. A fire originating in the walls is most likely to involve a building in rapid destruction. The space between bricks and plaster is not unfrequently crammed during construction with chips and shavings, that supply abundant fuel for such disaster. But even where a fire first starts within a room, a dumb-waiter in a dwelling, or a "fall" in a store, unless closed by a horizontal door on each floor, is likely to become a chimney with a free draft that carries flame throughout a building. As a measure of prudence, to prevent the spread of fire, and perhaps to confine it to a single room, it is advisable to close every door in a building during the night.

Friction matches, dropped while burning, or nibbled by mice, or in the hands of children, are among other occasions of fires. There is a practice almost invariable among servants, though by no means confined to them, of getting rid of the unburned ends of matches by thrusting them into the cracks that may have been caused in walls by shrinking or settling. If there happens to be a crevice of the sort near the place where a matchbox is kept, as possibly between a window frame or surbase and the adjoining plaster, a very considerable accumulation of such material is probable. We have in mind a fire that began in such a poke-hole, the last match not happening to be quite extinguished. The remedy for this class of occurrences would appear to be to provide with each matchbox a metallic receptacle for the unburnt ends: the matchbox itself should shut with a clasp, and be fastened to the wall at a sufficient height to be out of the reach of children. Fires very frequently occur by window curtains and shades catching flame from gaslights. It is worthy of consideration whether this could not be prevented by the use of chloride of zinc, or alum, or other chemicals, in the manufacture of shades, and in the processes of the laundry, so as to render the fabrics fireproof.

Nothing but stringent and thoroughly-enforced legislation will stop the rapidly-increasing percentage of kerosene fires. These, as well as the accidents that occur from fireworks and gunpowder, might be classed under the subdivision of "Playing with Fire." Penalties inflicted upon the owners of unsafe buildings and the buyers of dangerous substances, would evoke a carefulness respecting dealings with unscrupulous builders and manufacturers. In fact, so large a proportion of fires begin in or are increased by occasions or practices involving such culpable negligence, that the community may yet think favorably of the system, though taking exception to the severity of an Oriental monarch, any one of whose subjects, if a fire originates in his dwelling, is straightway led forth to capital punishment.

Charities and Asylums—The Insane Poor.

In that part of the Governor's Message which treated briefly of Charities and Asylums, he called special attention to the necessity of additional legislation for the benefit of the insane poor throughout the State. He said with truth that their condition is now deplorable, that none are so helpless, and none for the most part so friendless—abandoned by their relatives, and without suitable provision for their peculiar wants. Their presence in the County poorhouses is demoralizing to the neighborhood and hurtful to themselves.

Strongly as the Governor speaks, however, on this subject, his language is mild compared with that employed by the State Commissioners of Public Charities, to whose report, last year, we have taken the pains to refer. We find that these gentlemen declare that it is absolutely "painful to make the disclosure" they have felt compelled to make; that it is "humiliating" to the State that such "notorious and sickening abuses" should exist. The Commissioners thereupon go on to give an abstract of the condition of affairs in each county in the various lunatic asylums, and then sum up the results.

We shall not attempt to follow the Commissioners in their task; but if some CHARLES READE should record their unquestionable facts in story form, the account would probably be declared mere imagination. For the truth is, as the Commissioners say, that "no publicity has been given to abuses nor have public-spirited citizens, who were aware of them, had at hand the means of correction." In general it may be said that in the great majority of cases the buildings for the insane poor are meagre, out of repair, with broken walls and floors, and with bad light and air; the cells often like prison dungeons, dark and without furniture; the air close and the stench intolerable. "The cells are dirty, the beds torn in pieces, and the floor littered with straw and bits of clothing. Rats, at times, perform the duties of scavengers." Besides all these and a hundred like horrors, the utter want of classification is to be noted. "Into these pest houses the insane are crowded, associating with idiots and paupers of sound mind, adults as well as children. The excitable and noisy may be found confined in their cells in chains, close neighbors to the inoffensive and quiet. Two of them may be locked up in a single cell."

The remedy for these horrible arrangements is suggested by the Governor in the following language:

"The State should provide asylums, with room for the poor thus afflicted who cannot be taken care of otherwise, and the authorities of each county should be required to send to them its insane poor, and to pay such sum for their support while in the State institutions as may be proper. It is probable that many of those who are classed among the insane poor are so harmless or so manageable that families and friends could take care of them if pecuniary aid were contributed towards their support. In such cases the Superintendents of the Poor should be authorized and required to pay to those who would assume their care such weekly or monthly stipend as should be necessary and proper. This would prevent the overcrowding of the State institutions, yet add nothing to the county charges."

The Commissioners, in like manner, had declared that the "State had shifted off from itself upon the counties a duty which it ought ever to have recognized as imperative and sacred." It is to be hoped, however, that this blot on our institutions will no longer be suffered to remain.

It has been stated that the largest sum subscribed in this City to the fund for the benefit of the family of the late Mr. STANTON is $1,000, and that that was from a Democrat. The facts do not bear out the statement. Mr. A. T. STEWART gave $5,000, and twenty other gentlemen, all Republicans, $1,000 each.

The public will begin to ask whether we are destined to have another revival of the memorable operations which led to the gold panic of September last? It looks a little like it. The more occult causes of financial revolutions are beyond the penetration of the mass of the people, but when they hear that JAMES FISK, Jr., and JAY GOULD are forming another "Ring," they need no prophet to tell them that mischief is in the wind. On this occasion the house of ROTHSCHILD is going to take a "hand in." As the interests of legitimate trade are not much considered in these speculations we can hardly be expected to wish them success. We can only hope that Secretary BOUTWELL will not try half a dozen different policies this time, as he did when the last gold panic was being made ready.

The statement which we made yesterday, relative to a man named HAYS, who robbed and assaulted an aged man in Lexington-avenue and Twenty-sixth-street, must not be allowed to drop out of sight. We particularly invite the attention of the authorities to the facts. HAYS was arrested on the spot, and committed at the Jefferson Market Police Court. What followed? One day he was seen "among his comrades at their common meeting ground, having been bailed by a Deputy Sheriff." We are told that the "ruffian will never be indicted, because he rendered valuable service to the Democracy at the recent election." Our Deputy Sheriffs, as a rule, seem to be the curse of the City; but what we should like to know at this moment is whether it is really settled that HAYS is to get off unpunished? Because if he is, the sooner private citizens arrange some means for their own protection the better. It would be a great outrage to hang a Deputy Sheriff to a lamp post—but under the influence of great excitement worse outrages have been committed are now.

Governor HOFFMAN, as we have several times been given to understand, entertains the belief that we are very unfair to him in commenting on his action with regard to the Erie Railroad. He may now see what is thought of him abroad. He began public life with an honorable reputation, and for a long time he bore himself in such a manner as to win the respect even of his adversaries. In a fatal moment he played into the hands of FISK and the Erie "Ring," and we think most certainly he justified by events in predicting that he will never recover from the effects of that transaction. He knows best whether it was worth his while to sacrifice a station, character at the bidding of a man like FISK. He has taken his course, and henceforth must not be surprised if he is received with suspicion and averted looks by all men who are not involved in dishonest things. Sir CURTIS LAMPSON tells his Governor that he is practically responsible for the Erie fraud, and to the last day of his life he must expect to bear the obloquy of his offence.

How long will it be before the public are relieved from the inconveniences and dangers incidental to the running of heavy freight cars through the streets? The Fourth-avenue and Bowery are busy thoroughfares, and at all hours the ponderous railway cars are crashing through them, very often coming into collision with the legitimate traffic of the roads. On Friday evening a Third-avenue car was knocked into splinters by a New-Haven freight car. It is a barbarism to allow these huge obstructions to be dragged through the public streets at all, and the loss of life which ensues is most deplorable. When will that new depot be ready? When will the public streets be reserved for the proper use of the public?

There is something half ludicrous in the disappointment which has overtaken the Democrats of Newark. They gained a majority of two, as they thought, on the Common Council, and of course it was resolved at once to turn out all the Republican city officers. The meeting to settle this pleasing business took place. Upwards of 2,000 eager Democrats assembled together to shout over the spoils. But it was the old story of the cup and the lip. At the last moment, Alderman CAIN, a Democratic member, voted with the Republicans, thus making a tie vote—and the hungry ravens got no meat. But imagine the storm which whistled round Mr. CAIN's ears. The audience would have set a mark upon him with a vengeance if he had fallen into their hands. They cried out, "Hang him to the first tree," "Kick him out," and followed him up in so menacing a manner that the Police were obliged to escort him home. Mr. CAIN will have the reward of an approving conscience, but he must keep out of the way of his dear friends for the present.

What is the use of those incessant *Cosacks*, whether invented at Washington or elsewhere, about the suppression of the Cuban insurrection? It is maliciously alleged that the Government has set afloat the latest story to the disadvantage of the insurgents. That, of course, may be set aside as a weak invention of the enemy. But it is very important that no excuse should be given for such a charge. The Cuban Junta here solemnly assure us that CESPEDES and his forces are still hard at work. We can not see that they are accomplishing much—but that is quite another thing from asserting that the "independence movement" is dead. Fair play in combination with strict neutrality may at least be asked for by the friends of the fighting Cubans.

The four new markets of this City spoken of in the report of the Board of Health will furnish the most prevailing arguments yet offered for the doing away of the Washington Market, which, in a merely business part of New-York, is certainly more of a nuisance than a convenience. These four practical arguments tell also against the Fulton Market, another antiquated and inconvenient concern, lying like lumber in the crowded thoroughfares of the Fulton Ferry. It has been considered a convenience for Brooklyn; but as the latter city is about to have a great market-place of its own, the plea has not much force. These down-town old markets have all the venerable prestige of the "boroughs" of the old countries. But it is time to get rid of them; and it is scarcely to the credit of such a go-ahead City as New-York that it has taken so many years to think about it.

These earthquake shocks, tremors and rumblings of the Nevada region, of Bakersville in California, of Vancouver's Island and other places, show that the elements of combustion and explosion which originally threw up the volcanic summits of that long Pacific mountain range, are still at work, though in a more moderate way, and they furnish us with a significant comment on Dr. DORMUS's late lecture about our earth, and how it grew at first from some enormous globule of inflammable gas. These earthquakes on our Pacific slopes have no longer the power to move mountains, or do any mighty amount of damage, but they produce great frights as long as they last, and then strong comic reactions of the feelings, as we perceive in one of the late Nevada journals.

It is by no means calculated to increase the confidence of the public in the Police force of this City, that a vagabond so well known as JAMES DUNN should have escaped without the least difficulty. He is one of the class of ruffians which the Police are always said to "have their eyes on." In fact, it is pretty well understood that the Police do know where the notorious rascals of the City are to be found, and this murderer DUNN was probably on sociable terms with more than one member of the force. He shoots a man in the street—a man whom the community can spare exceedingly well—and walks off in perfect security. The Police cannot find him! How, then, can we expect them to track down an unknown assassin? If they cannot lay their hands on a well-known criminal, what degree of trust, are we warranted in reposing in them? Every night some private citizen is robbed and brutally ill-treated, even in the most populous parts of the town. There never was so much personal violence accompanied with street robberies. The thieves are not satisfied with plunder; they must half murder their victims. The plain fact is, that the Police are either afraid of the ruffians, and hide themselves when they see a struggle going on, or they are not numerous enough to preserve order. Superintendent KENNEDY ought to tell us which, in his opinion, is the real cause of the evil, and we should be very ready to lend him our help in providing a remedy. At present no honest man or woman is safe.

A Cable telegram tells us how CHARLES DICKENS, making another speech at Birmingham, puts his recent cruelest saying about some people and other people beyond any doubt by declaring that he has a strong trust in the masses, and little, or none at all in the governing folk. This is all very good and satisfactory, and shows

ple too, seeing that literary men in general, when they have seen a good deal of the world and fall into years, forget their first liberal notions, grow conservative and careless, leaning rather to the aristocracy and losing faith in popular progress. BUCKLE is an honorable exception, being in life and literature a steady democrat, always advocating the cause of the people in many ways, and preferring to address them from a lecturing platform rather than go into Parliament.

AMUSEMENTS.

The City.

The great dramatic event of the week has been the admirable production of "Hamlet" at Booth's Theatre. So conspicuous a revival is highly honorable to the management, and constitutes an important era in the history of Metropolitan art. As we have suggested before, the costumes adopted are significant rather of originality than of demonstrable correctness. The date of the story on which SHAKESPEARE founded his tragedy is so far back in time, and the records of any sort so scanty, that reproductions in the way of dress, and even of architecture, must needs be at best of doubtful precision. There are, nevertheless, such things as general probability and artistic harmony. We are not quite sure that the Gothic was the style of architecture employed in the royal buildings of Denmark, but are ready to believe that silk stockings and velvet shirts—the usual stage attire in "Hamlet"—were not common in the time of *Claudius*. We all remember what a fuss was made over Queen ELIZABETH's slender possessions in the way of silken hose, and although silk velvet was not unknown then, and velveteen was heard of in the thirteenth century, it is not probable that such materials were in ordinary use among the Danes several centuries before. We do not know who or what may have been Mr. BOOTH's archæological authorities, but do not doubt they have been carefully consulted and judiciously followed. Whether Danish or not, his *Hamlet* dresses are in general harmony with the North of Europe costume of the supposed period of the tragedy, and the first sight of them carries conviction that they are infinitely more plausible as the garb of that period than the conventional trappings hitherto usually seen in the play on the stage. The dress of the *Ghost*, as it seems to us, might be better. It looks too modern, and has a white look that is not, however, at all ghastly. The general effect in color, to our mind, should be a dark, shimmering blue, with very carefully adjusted drapery of some diaphanous material, say a blue gauze. We have already spoken at considerable length of Mr. BOOTH's carefully-studied performance of *Hamlet*, and take this opportunity to add a few remarks on his assistants. Miss FANNY MORANT acts *Queen Gertrude* with much dignity, grace and feeling. She evinces that thorough acquaintance with the text of her author—we mean of that spoken by others as well as by herself—which, denoted by sympathetic action and expression throughout, is so rare as to deserve particular mention. Miss MORANT indicates delicately but unmistakably that strong under current of voluptuousness and feminine vanity breaking through the barriers of an otherwise noble character, the existence and force of which must be presupposed for *Gertrude* to do what she did. That her nature is otherwise noble and fine, we cannot doubt, otherwise, whence that of her son? In the trying "closet scene," Miss MORANT is excellent. She keeps up the representation of remorse, terror and passionate grief with a sustained power very commendable indeed; and the contrast of this scene with the syren-like fascination of the previous ones—for her charms bewitched *Claudius* to crime no less than his ambition—is painfully striking. Mr. WALLER is a fair, but by no means a great *Ghost*. He seems to lack imagination, to feel and portray the ineffable tenderness and awful meaning that can be conveyed, whether he thinks it or not, even in monotone. On the first night, too, Mr. WALLER was sometimes slightly at fault in the words. Of all the secondary characters in the Shakespearean drama the *Ghost* bears worst any uncertainty in the text. Every word he utters is fraught with its own portentous and blood-chilling significance, and both the poetry and the sense halt and suffer from substitutions or omissions. Mr. WALLER's defects in this wise were, it should be admitted, extremely slight; but we would rather hear the exact words of the original, and the above reasons are sufficient in an exceptional case to justify us in expecting their presence. Mr. D. C. ANDERSON gives a respectable and experienced embodiment of *Polonius*. He, however, lacks humor and unction in the part, or did on the first night he undertook it. He is also—notably in the scene with *Laertes*—deficient in dignity. This may have arisen from the special anxieties of the occasion, and may since have been remedied. We mean to imply that Mr. ANDERSON has probably—judging from many incidents of his *Polonius*, and his obvious knowledge of his profession—resources in reserve with which we may make acquaintance on future opportunities. Mr. HAMILTON's *Claudius* is respectable, and in parts more than respectable. He rends the restored soliloquy in the third act, "Oh, my offence is rank," &c., steadily and well, with "good accent and discretion," and succeeds throughout—a pretty good test of success in the part—in awakening among his audience more of pity than abhorrence. Neither the *Horatio* nor the *Laertes* are quite as strong as they should be, but both gentlemen are careful and correct, and if they do not materially heighten the effect of the picture, they do nothing to disturb its harmony. We should rejoice to be able to speak more warmly of Miss BLANCHE DE BAR's *Ophelia* than we do, in saying it is pretty and acceptable. Miss DE BAR might profit by emulating her female iconoclastic tendencies. She is somewhat too stagey and conventional. *Ophelia* should be anything rather than either. The remaining characters require no special mention. In a general way the acting is rather too much subordinated to the principal figure for the best possible effect. It is undoubtedly true that most people go mainly to see Mr. BOOTH, and equally so that subordination of the same sort has been habitually carried further by most prominent actors than it is carried by him. We again take occasion to commend the whole spirit, taste and energy of this revival. It is a special credit to the City of New-York, and a most important aid to the position and repute of the national drama.

At the Fifth-Avenue Theatre, "The Burgomaster" has been quite a success, and we are glad to congratulate the manager on the gratifying fact. The merit of the piece—as an acting play, of course, and not as a literary production—is considerable, and at all events it is not wish it had with many of the "sterling old comedies," a dull and unmitigated bore to sit through its performance. To-morrow night, Miss OLIVE LOGAN's star will be in the ascendant here, and "Surf, or, Summer Scenes at Long Branch," which has a wishy-washy sound, but may be, and let us hope is, very good for all that, is to be enacted. Miss LOGAN's critical powers have of late been industriously directed toward the sort of drama that ought to be put down, and we trust that she has given the public in her comedy an illustration of the sort that should be sustained.

At Wallack's Theatre during the week the plays have been repetitions of previous successes, and the business has justified the sagacity of the management. To-morrow night an important change is announced in the presentation of ROBERTSON's admired military drama of "Odra," which will be given with all the glories of new scenery, music, costumes and uniforms, a regimental band, &c., &c. There is little doubt but that this attractive performance will hold the stage for some time, and so oblige a continued postponement of "School" and the new play of "Lost at Sea."

At Niblo's, "Little Em'ly" was acted during the week. The performances had been bettered lately, and gave much pleasure. Mr. CHARLES FECHTER and Mlle. CARLOTTA LECLERCQ commence their engagement at the same house to-morrow evening, appearing in "Ruy Blas."

No performances of moment call for attention at any of the other theatres. Mr. G. L. FOX, who has been the star at the Olympic this week, appears there until Saturday evening, taking one night in "The Writing on the Wall." At the Grand Opera House, Mr. LEHMANN, Miss ADELE DUNNING and Mr. and Mrs. HOWARD PAUL have performed, and will continue to occupy the boards until to-morrow week, when the first representation of "The Twelve Temptations" is promised. The new pantomime spectacle at the Bowery is not yet in readiness, but will be in a very few days. "Cinderella" is given nightly, and at bi-weekly matinées at the Circus, with a host of gymnastic and equestrian acts. "Hack" is the most attractive element of the San Francisco Minstrels' programme. The Bim-bos remain at Wood's Museum, and appear in "Ixion" to-morrow evening. The theatres, we note, are prospering again; the period attending even the last fortnight in December was specially unproductive last year.

E. M. C. A. CONCERT.

The fortunate reappearance of the sun yesterday enabled a large audience to be present at the fourth popular concert of this Association. Miss BULL and Messrs. BRIGHT, LEE and MORA were the artists of the afternoon. Mr. LEE's cornet playing needs no criticism; the efforts of the vocalists require more than we have space for. Concerning the organ playing, it must be said that while Mr. MORA is a good organist and fully deserved the applause he received, the organ is made too prominent a feature of the programme. Few people after all really appreciate the difficulties of the noble instrument, and where its capacity for full and majestic harmonies is perverted by mere efforts to imitate orchestral effects and to deafen one with its thunders, its manipulation ceases to be interesting and becomes positively wearisome. If an orchestra is needed it can be had; but the mere mechanical effects of bass drum, kettle drum and cymbals, will never delude the spectator into the belief that the Philharmonic Society orchestra is in attendance. The management, in their preliminary scheme, said something about an orchestra; and it is time for them to redeem their promise.

Another point seeming to invite discussion is the announcement that OLE BULL will play next Saturday, when the price of the tickets is to be increased to fifty cents. Now it was intended not that these concerts should make money, but that they should place the best music within reach of every one. Yet, whenever "eminent artists" are announced, the prices always assume an upward tendency. Fifty cents is not an exorbitant price, but let it be understood that whenever really first-class professional musicians are to interpret the programme, the prices are to be doubled, and what is to become of the "popular concert" theory? The hall is always full, and there can be, therefore, no question about expenses. We have no desire to cavil or find fault. The intentions of the managers are most excellent, and for that reason does any departure from the best method of carrying them into effect seem to challenge criticism. Prosperity is often dangerous to those affected by it. The concerts are too valuable assistants in the establishing of a higher standard of musical taste in the Metropolis to be allowed to degenerate into mere money-making machines.

MISS KATE FIELD.

Miss KATE FIELD, whose lectures in the island towns east and north of us have been extremely successful, is sojourning for a day or two in New-York, prior to undertaking an extensive tour to the West, arrangements for which have for some time past been effected. We understand that Miss FIELD will extend her travels as far as to St. Louis, and return to New-York in the Spring.

Home Notes.

Mr. MCKEAN BUCHANAN has been suffering from inflammation of the eyes....Mr. C. D. HESS, of Chicago, is now in this City, and, it is rumored, is seeking to engage FECHTER to act in Chicago....Wednesday, Mr. FORREST was in Columbus, Ohio....A Southern paper calls attention to the fact that Misses KELLOGG, DURAND and MCCULLOCH are all natives of North Carolina....The Indianapolis *Journal* alludes to the recent ill success of Mr. FORREST in the city it is published in, and referring to the change years have wrought in his physique, declares that "The legs indicate readiness in the future"....LOTTI is singing with the Maretzek Opera Troupe in Philadelphia.... The Russian Concert Troupe sang last week in Hartford, Conn....The new play by MATILDA HERON and LAURA KEENE, called "Champagne; or, Step by Step," was produced at the Chestnut-Street Theatre, in Philadelphia, a few nights since, and is pronounced a success. The story is in brief that of a young banker who takes his first glass of champagne at his wedding breakfast. He likes it, and drinks of it deeply. He neglects his business and squanders his money, and becomes a confirmed drunkard. His house and property are sold, and he goes to live with his faithful wife in a tenement house. Before this he is falsely accused of a forgery, and this, together with a run upon his bank which he is unable to withstand, hastens his downfall. His father loses his mind, becomes a pauper, and is taken to the almshouse. The villain of the play falls in love with the banker's wife, and, to further his purposes, forges a check, and so manages it that *George Howland*, the banker, is suspected and charged with his crime. He is the intimate friend of young *Howland*, and takes care that liquor shall at times be supplied him. He hopes that *Molly*, wife of *George*, will leave him when he has lost all and fallen beneath the pity of his former associates. He fails; the wife remains true. Virtue is triumphant over vice, *George* returns, his innocence is proven, a fortune for him is discovered, and the green curtain descends, after the fifth act, upon a happy family. LAURA KEENE played *Molly*.....Mme. PARepa-ROSA and her troupe sing "Martiana" at the Boston Theatre, on Monday.... Mr. E. L. DAVENPORT is "at home" in Boston. ....SELWYN produces "Little Em'ly" at his Boston house to-morrow week.... The Boston *Traveller* of Wednesday, proclaimed to the world the news that on the previous night: "Mr. STUART ROBSON failed to put in an appearance at Selwyn's Theatre, from the fact that Mr. STUART ROBSON was drunk; and so Mr. PEARSON at half an hour's notice performed *Bottom*, Mr. DISMORE the part of *Quince*, and Mr. BRADFORD, *Snout*"....Miss LUCILLE WESTERN, who has been quite unsuccessful at the Boston Theatre, occupies the Providence Academy three nights this week.... GRAU's German Opera Troupe were last week at Weisiger Hall, in Louisville, Ky. The critic of the *Courier-Journal* opines "that the company gives the most sufficient, the most thoroughly artistic and upright performances which the people have an opportunity of witnessing. By the side of them, the insufferable finery and airs of the Parepa-Rosa people are positively disgusting."....The Richings-Bernard Opera Troupe were last week in Chicago. LOTTA was in the same city.... Mr. JOHN E. OWENS acted week before last in Mobile, Ala....Mr. LESTER WALLACK is now at the New-Orleans Academy of Music.

Foreign Affairs.

AUBER'S NEW OPERA.

The *Journal Officiel* gives a brief sketch of the opera, which has just been performed for the first time, in the presence of the Emperor and Empress: "M. AUBER's new opera is in three acts, the words by Messrs. D'ERMY and COMMON. So much had been said previously concerning the merits of the "Rêve d'Amour," which is the title of the new opera, that public curiosity was strongly awakened; well-informed persons spoke highly of it as being superior in all respects to the 'Premier Jour de Bonheur.' The effect produced on the audience by the first representation was scarcely equal to what had been anticipated, and the libretto, unfortunately, was of less service than usual to the brilliant composer. The subject of the piece is represented as occurring under the old *régime*. A young peasant, the nephew of an honest farmer, falls hopelessly in love with a great lady—so deeply, indeed, that for two years he had completely lost his appetite, and remained insensible to the affection of his cousin Denise, a pretty girl, who desired for nothing better than to become his wife. At the moment when their marriage was about to be celebrated Marcel, the hero of the opera, [illegible] service in the army. Happily, the great lady was nothing more than the daughter of a farmer. Marcel's uncle, who was received by a rich lord on his travels, along with his own niece, at a time when her father was in such a state of poverty as to compel the sacrifice. The supposed marchioness, having assumed her real condition, was not above the rank of Marcel, and he might have aspired to her hand, but she declined to purchase her own happiness at the expense of that of Denise, who was dying of love. Consequently she parted from off as the niece of the family, instead of the daughter, which placed her in the position of Marcel's sister, who, therefore, consented himself to marry Denise. The vagaries of relationship notwithstanding, the interest that might have otherwise been taken in the plot of the piece, did not give to the comic opera demanded of the character of a moralizer. The agreeableness of AUBER's music, nevertheless, pierced through this load of worthlessness, but not without rendering it apparent that he had, to some extent, quitted his habitual sphere. We did not entirely perceive the fact until we had heard the charming duet of the first act, the brilliant recitative of the second act, which reminds the hearer of the most celebrated passages in the 'Ambassadrice,' and the trio of the third act, which was encored. Mlle. PRIOLA, who first developed her remarkable talent at the Théâtre-Lyrique, made her first appearance at the Opera Comique in the character of the *Marchioness*. Her voice is a mezzo-soprano of delightful tone. Another debutante, Mlle. NAN made her first appearance as the chevalier of Devise. Her voice is somewhat thin and sharp, and deficient in volume. If the new opera is not destined to have as long a run as the 'Premier Jour de Bonheur,' the audience, nevertheless, received the names of the authors with great favor."

MISCELLANEOUS GOSSIP.

"At this season of the year," says the *Illustrated London News*, "canards fly as thickly as meteors on one of the great November nights of wonder. Most of them may be allowed to flit without other notice than a smile. But when we have a story which is at once outrageous and painful, it is natural to wish that there was some means of 'marring the clerk's pen,' as *Grafiane* observes under considerable provocation. Scarcely had the grave closed over the remains of a great artist, when we were disturbed by the news that another, to whom she had been united for many years, and whose name was instinctively associated with hers by a public that had long delighted in their joint exploits, lyrical and histrionic, had been unable to endure her loss, and had committed self-destruction. Those who are personally acquainted with Signor MARIO were well aware that his is not the weak nature which succumbs in the first heavy affliction, and the report found no acceptance with them. But everything is possible, and the British nation, really the most sentimental in the world, except the American, (both, of course, being utterly enraged when the charge is made,) rather favors romance, and seemed to think it a very natural thing that, because MARIO had died before them a thousand times for the love of her who is gone, he should in private carry out the part of the opera hero. To give the foolish tale more probability, it was said that terror of poverty had been an additional incitement to the act. As there is no saying whether an intelligent public may refuse to surrender all belief in the allegations of the *canard* monger, it is not, I hope, improper, as I am speaking of a public man, to say that Signor MARIO's friends are happy to know that his circumstances happen to be much more than easy. Perhaps the next lie will be less clumsy"....At the London Gaiety Theatre, a new burlesque by Mr. G. A. SALA, called "Wat Tyler, M. P.," has been produced. The *Times* regards the work as "indifferent"....The ceiling of the immense new Opera House in Paris will be as remarkable for novelty as some of those combinations of architectural ideas which distinguish the façade and have excited much hostile criticism. It will be composed of a vast number of plates of copper screwed one to the other in such a way as to be easily put together and taken to pieces again. Part of the advantages of the plan is said to be that the ceiling can thus be raised or lowered at will. The whole is divided into several sections, which are now being painted with allegorical representations of the hours of day and night, more than a hundred figures being included in the whole. The place in which M. LEBRUN, the artist, carries on his labor is situated in the grand cupola over the pit, and forms an immense rotunda, 120 feet in diameter and 65 feet in height. Probably no artist ever before possessed such a studio, its size, as has been remarked, being sufficient to accommodate half a dozen mansions of five stories high. It will be remembered that M. GOUNOD's "Mireille" was founded upon a long epic poem written in the old Provençal tongue still spoken in the strange wild district in the north of Marseilles. Another work by M. MISTRAL, entitled "Calendal," is to be turned into a libretto for Mme. PAULINE VIARDOT, to be set to music by M. GEORGES BIZET, and produced at one of the lyric theatres of Paris. Meanwhile M. GOUNOD, who was erroneously reported to have undertaken "Calendal," is still engaged upon his "Polyeucte."....A curious subject was discussed a few days ago by a commission appointed by the dramatic authors of Paris. The Opera Comique is now compelled to bring out "twelve new acts" every year. The question is, whether or not works originally produced at another theatre shall be taken to be new. To the great joy of composers the question has been answered in the negative.... An actor recently dropped down dead on the stage in the Gezmed Theatre at Amsterdam, while playing the part of *Mascaras* in "La Belle Hélène." The public at first laughed at seeing him fall from his seat, thinking that it was a comic incident of the piece, but their mirth was changed to a chill of horror on seeing him carried out and on learning that he had expired from the rupture of an aneurism.... Mme. ARABELLA GODDARD intends to play in Paris this Winter....Among the engagements reported to be made by Mr. GYE for next year is that of Herr WAGNER. Has he not already been tried, at least twice, at the Covent Garden, and found wanting?....M. OFFENBACH makes his plans betimes. He has already agreed to supply to the Opéra Comique, in conjunction with MM. MEILHAC and HALEVY, a novelty for October, 1871....At the sale of a library in Ghent a few days ago the first edition of "Esther, by RACINE, Paris, 1687, was sold for 1,050 francs.

The Fine Arts.

We have heretofore spoken of the merits of Mr. ALEXANDER WUST's pictures. A year or two ago, shortly after his return from Europe, Mr. WUST exhibited a number of paintings of Norwegian scenery, which were much admired, and which brought high prices. A collection of Mr. WUST's paintings is now on exhibition at the Somerville Art Gallery, Fourteenth-street and Fifth-avenue. They are to be sold at public auction on Friday evening next, 14th inst. Although some of them were painted during the past year, they are not equal in merit to those executed by Mr. WUST in Europe. The scenes chiefly represented are the Norwegian Fiords and valleys of Lapland and Switzerland. The best of these pictures is, to our thinking, that representing a "Swiss Valley." An evening scene, in which wild fowl are seeking a shelter for the night amid the rocks surrounding a lonely lake, is also good. Among the larger pictures, "A Waterfall in the Valley of Romedal" is the best. The swift, furious leap of the mountain torrent is well given. The rocks, however, are too hard, and the same fault may be found with several of Mr. WUST's paintings in this collection. The effect of "Moonlight in the Koalaps" is good, and a landscape with castle and a storm rising in the distance, is also worthy of attention.

Some half dozen pictures by EUGENE MEERA have been added to the collection. The best of them, perhaps, is "An Artist in the Middle Ages," a monk painting a small image of a saint. In this and the picture which hangs near it—"The Little Waitress"—the expressions and flesh coloring are noticeably good. The hands, too, are very carefully painted. The monk's cell looks a little too bright, clean, and modern. "The Ghetto," or Jew's quarter in Rome, represents a barefooted friar begging for himself and his convent. The expressions on the countenances of the Jewish traders are depicted with considerable power. "The Gossips" represents two market women indulging in a long talk. The figures and accessories are well painted, but are a little hard.

Americans in Paris.

List of Americans registered at the office of BOWLES BROTHERS & Co., No. 12 Rue de la Paix, Paris, for the week ending Dec. 22, 1869: New-York—J. G. Marshall, Wm. E. Sibell, A. G. Lathrop, F. H. Lord, J. S. Rogers, A. J. Adams, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Rust, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Hurlbut, Mrs. W. H. Milburn, G. Kemp and family, E. C. Morris, A. W. Grodell, Mrs. Cuddeby, E. Waterhouse, C. M. Schott, W. A. Wood, J. C. Heywood, W. H. Chase, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Hackley, Boston—H. J. Burton, Jr., C. Fairchild, G. T. McLauthlin and wife, Dr. Wigglesworth, F. H. Smith, A. H. Hall, A. C. Wellworth, C. B. Gardner, T. E. Upham, [illegible] and wife, Miss Parsons, T. H. Harwell, Oswego—R. F. Rich, Philadelphia—J. H. Kemp, Geneva—J. S. Andrews, Oswego—Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Johnson, Miss A. M. Johnson, Miss E. L. P. Johnson, West Chester—Howard Painter, Toledo—W. Gardner, Chicago—O. E. Leith, Indianapolis—J. Willard, Providence—A. B. Adams, Massachusetts—B. F. Hamilton, Samuel Dunham, California—Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Alden and daughter, United States Navy—R. R. Wallace, Bordeaux—C. Olinch, United States Consul, Vienna—A. French, Hong Kong—J. Jackson.

SOUTH AMERICA.

Summary from the Seat of War—The Age of Progress—Foreign Colonies—Gold—Commerce.

From Our Own Correspondent.

BUENOS AYRES, Sunday, Nov. 14, 1869.

This war seems to consist of rumors, which offering one day its speedy termination, the next day make the finish even farther off than before. Now the rumors are about the mooted departure of the Minister of Foreign Affairs to Rio Janeiro, an event supposed to be of the greatest importance. Some persons state that VARELA's journey to Brazil can mean nothing less than that the Argentine Government is tired out, and wishes to bring matters to a conclusion. In this as in many the strangle cannot be maintained much longer, at the present tremendous cost, by countries whose resources are crippled as are those of this Republic and Brazil. LOPEZ is well aware of this, and therefore takes good care to avoid anything like a battle. He is supposed to be at Caraguaty, some thirty leagues beyond Itaroy, with a few thousand badly armed and supplied troops. Deserters state all his heavy baggage to be between twenty and thirty leagues farther in the mountains, so that his plan plainly is to tire the Allies out. This the present season will greatly aid him in doing, as the great heat, reaching in Paraguay 120° to 130° in sun, will either retard, or perhaps altogether put a stop to any active operations for several months. The Argentines are noting with no satisfied glance the fact that most of the principal parts of the conquered country are being occupied by Brazilians, who are evidently taking care of themselves, though at San José their troops were nearly starved to death, having been forced to live on roots and horseflesh, owing to the failure of their supplies and the impossibility of renewing them.

PROGRESS.

The age of railways and telegraphs seems at last to have dawned for this country—the Central Argentine is going ahead rapidly, being now open to within about eighteen leagues from Cordoba, which distance will soon be completed, as the works are progressing fast. A contract has also been made between the Government and the Southern Railway of Buenos Ayres, by which the former surrenders all claim on the Company for $10,000, which claim it held thus far by its guarantee of seven per cent. interest. The Government also requires all its previous expenditures to be repaid, as soon as the Company yields a dividend over seven per cent. per annum. The telegraph recently put up between Buenos Ayres and Rosario (a State line) pays well, and is about to be continued to San Lorenzo, about thirty miles further up.

FOREIGN COLONIES.

The English colony at Fraile Muerto is flourishing, the colonists having over 4,000 acres under cultivation, and the frontiers having been pushed forward some fifty leagues, as far as Rio Quarto. Several batches of laborers have gone up there lately to help gather in the harvest, which is expected to yield very large profits. American plows are at work there, as also not a few threshing machines, so that the success of that thriving settlement is well established. The flax-growing colony of Mr. HENLY is not in so prosperous a condition, but its promoter has no doubt as to its ultimate success. Several private individuals are making money out of silkworms, which seem to live out here well. As yet this branch of industry, however, is in its infancy.

GOLD.

Gold, of a very rich quality, is said to have been recently discovered in Guaiyguay, Province of Entre Rios, and so sanguine as to the future are the discoverers, that they are making preparations to begin work on a large scale.

NATIONAL EXHIBITION.

The national exhibition to be held in this city next year promises to be a success. Nearly 5,000 shares have been already purchased, and the Provincial Chambers have under consideration a bill to empower the Province to buy two or three thousand, as well as to vote $60,000 in gold, for prizes.

COMMERCE.

Commercial affairs are brightening up a little in consequence of more favorable advices from all foreign markets. The new clip is coming in fast, and fetches very good prices—$35 to $40 (paper) for good wool, and from $20 to $25 for inferior classes. The exports of hides to the States last month were about the average, namely, 95,171 dry hides, and about 4,000 salted; during this month, up to date, about 10,000 more have been shipped. The prices of hides, wool, skins and other produce have undergone very little alteration, showing a tendency to rise, and maintaining themselves firm.

COMMUNICATIONS.

The Dress of American and English Women.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

In reading "Public Opinion" of Dec. 4th, 1869, I find an extract from your excellent paper under the heading of "The Dress of American Women," and I wish to express an opinion on the subject of the "Englishwoman" in the comparison being "dowdy" or otherwise. I have travelled on the Continent of Europe and have spent several years in England, during which time I carefully observed the manners, customs and dress of all classes of society, the result of which examination leads me to think that your remarks must refer to the very poorest of the working class.

I never saw anything inclined to dowdiness in the dress of English ladies, and certainly the American girl is more apt to wear high colors and present great contrasts, and is also willing to exhibit much more of her person to the public gaze than the ordinary English girl. Even that the Englishwomen are somewhat stouter, which probably accounts for the absence of "dapper" gracefulness. I trust your love of fair play will prompt you to consider and insert the above.

AN IMPARTIAL OBSERVER.

OTSEGO, M. Y., Thursday, Jan. 6, 1870.

Nullification in the West.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

Is it not strange and contradictory, not to say disloyal, to see the State of Iowa, which fought most vigorously and patriotically against secession, attempting to organize nullification within her borders? However guarded and subtle may be the expressions used by the late Convention of the non-paying counties and cities of that State, the resolutions passed by it are nullification and nothing else. They declare that the authority and dignity of their State is endangered; they appeal from a final and solemn decision of the Supreme Court of the United States, not only to the General Assembly of the State of Iowa and to Congress, but to single States. They advise the citizens to "resist the levy of the tax by the Federal Marshal * * * until all legal and practical remedies are exhausted," &c., &c.

The final decision of the Supreme Court of the United States against the defaulting cities and counties has, in most cases, been given eighteen months ago. Since then an endless cross fire of *mandamuses*, of injunctions and counter injunctions, of *habeas corpuses* and *quo warranties*, has been exchanged between the State and Federal authorities. Now the Federal Court has declared the fight at an end. Will the dignity of the State and the nation gain by an attempt to protract it?

The Republic of Switzerland, which has centralized her Federal powers less than we have, carries into execution the decisions of her Supreme Court, in a simple, straight forward and practical way, which puts to shame her larger and more powerful sister. The Swiss Federal Government having no immediate representative in the States, sends an official notice of the Federal Courts' decision to the State, giving it a fixed time for execution through its State machinery exclusively. If not executed within the time fixed, the Federal Government steps into the State through a special Federal Commissioner, who sees the decision executed, with the help of the militia if necessary. There is at once [illegible] Our own Republic Administration, whose head [illegible] sole authority of the Federal Government, "hesitate any longer after submitting faithfully to all the forms and delays allowed by the Constitution, and yield to threatened nullification? Yielding, however, to the other second thought, the counties and cities of Iowa will themselves give the answer, and will arrive at the sound practical conclusion that, after all, "Honesty is the best policy." Their decision will be the more timely that the State, it is said, contemplates appealing to public credit for a loan.

A SWISS OBSERVER.

SELF ADMINISTERED.—PHALON'S VENALIA, OR SALVAGNIS FOR THE HAIR, carries with it the cure best of testimonials. As the light shines through the bottle you see that the liquid is clear as the azure of heaven. You smell it and find the odor agreeable. You apply it and it changes gray hair to any natural shade without soiling the scalp or producing headache. Nothing can be more harmless.—*Advertisement.*

Horrible Deaths from Kerosene

Are of almost daily occurrence. Secure safety for yourself and family by burning PRATT'S "ASTRAL" OIL, which will not explode. Indorsed by chemists as the purest and safest oil manufactured. No. 108 Fulton-street, New-York.—*Advertisement.*

TRAIN'S CHURCH.—("Tabernacle")—To-night will be filled, as usual, to overflowing. Go early.—*Advertisement.*

HAZARD & CASWELL'S Cod Liver Oil is the best.—*Advertisement.*

Trains—"Tabernacle"—To-Night.

Suppressed notices—*Old Copies of Bible.* Usual Parlor singing and Pastoral prayer omitted.

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DIED.

AHRENS.—On Friday morning, Jan. 7, Mrs. CATHARINE AHRENS, aged 70 years, 1 month and 23 days.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend her funeral from the residence of her son-in-law, M. Dun, No. 211 Bleecker-st., Brooklyn, on Sunday afternoon, at 2 o'clock.

BARTHOLOMEW.—On Friday, Jan. 7, at 11 P. M., ALEXANDER, youngest son of the late Frederick H. Bartholomew, in the 21st year of his age.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral on Monday, at 1 P. M., from his late residence, No. 45 West 37th-st.

COLE.—On Sunday, Jan. 4, RICHARD D. COLE, in the 63d year of his age.

The relatives and friends of the family, and of his brother-in-law, Noah L. and the late Dexter P. and Thos. Smith, are respectfully invited to attend the funeral from his late residence, No. 137 Montgomery-st., Jersey City, on Sunday, 23d inst., at 1 P. M.

DOUGLASS.—In Brooklyn, on Saturday, Jan. 8, MARIA W., wife of Charles H. Douglass.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral from her late residence, No. 24 Bond-st., on Tuesday, 11th inst., at 2 o'clock P. M.

FOWLER.—On Friday, Jan. 7, at the City of New-York, FREDERICK C. FOWLER, only son of James Walker and Mary Frances Fowler, in the 21st year of his age.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral service on Sunday, Jan. 9, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, at St. Bartholomew's Church, corner of Madison-ave. and 42d-st. The remains will be removed to Newburgh, N. Y., for interment, on the following day.

LAVERY.—On Saturday, Jan. 8, ANNE A. MACGARVEY, widow of the late John Lavery, of Banbridge, County Down, Ireland, in the 70th year of her age.

Friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral service at her late residence, No. 130 East 50th-st., on Monday, the 10th inst., at 12 M.

PRATT.—On Friday evening, Jan. 7, HARRIET P. SWEIZER, wife of Adam Pratt, in the 65th year of her age.

The relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend her funeral from her late residence, 556 Grand, first house west of 4th-ave., south side, on Monday, 10th inst., at 11 o'clock.

REDINGTON.—On Friday, Jan. 7, at her residence, near Philadelphia, Penn., SARAH AMELIA REDINGTON, daughter of the late A. K. Fish, and granddaughter of John Beekman, deceased, of New-York City.

SCHUYLER.—At Jersey City, on Saturday, Jan. 8, 1870, MARY BIRKA CURE, wife of J. B. Schuyler.

Funeral services will take place at No. 252 Grand-st., Williamsburg, N. J., on Monday, Jan. 10, at 3 o'clock P. M. Carriages will be in waiting for friends on arrival of the 1 o'clock train from foot of Courtlandt-st., New-York.

TOUSEY.—In this City, on Saturday morning, Jan. 8, SYLVIA, widow of the late Minard Tousey.

The interment services will be held on Monday, the 10th inst., at Newtown, Conn., whether the remains will be taken for interment.

WILLIAMS.—At his residence, Tompkinsville, S. I., on Wednesday, Jan. 5, GEORGE WILLIAMS, aged 85 years.

WAUGH.—On Saturday, Jan. 8, Captain JAMES L. WAUGH, aged 67 years, 2 months and 16 days.

Notice of funeral hereafter.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ALL THE NEWS!

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The LARGEST and CHEAPEST Weekly for $1 per Annum Published in the World.

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REMOVAL.

F. DERBY & CO.

have removed from

No. 97 Walker-st.

to their new establishment,

No. 5 Clinton-place, New-York.

NO MORE MEDICINE.

Dyspepsia, phthisis, constipation, diarrhœa, nervousness, and all bilious liver and stomach complaints, cured by the REVALENTA FOOD; 70,000 cures; copies gratis. T. DU BARRY, 122 William-st., N. Y.

MISCELLANEOUS.

FOR THE PRESENT,

AT THE GREAT WHOLESALE STORE,

NOW SELLING AT RETAIL,

NO. 58 BROADWAY,

(St. Nicholas Hotel Block.)

On MONDAY, Jan. 10, 1870, I shall make reductions in the price of the following goods:

SILK VELVETS AND PLUSHES,

IRISH POPLINS,

BLACK ALPACAS, MOHAIR CORDS,

CROWN POPLINS, TABLE LINENS,

NAPKINS, DOILIES,

FLANNELS, BLANKETS, HOSIERY,

LADIES' AND GENT'S UNDERWEAR,

AND

PARIS TRIMMED ROUND HATS.

My prices for the above-mentioned goods have heretofore been far below the actual gold cost to import.

Hence this reduction will give the public an opportunity to purchase at less prices than the same articles were ever sold before in this country.

I have made this reduction in order to say to the people, if you wish to purchase, now is your opportunity; and to those who do not need this class of goods for immediate consumption, that the prices are lower than you will see them again.

No matter if the Government should resume specie payments at once! Therefore, purchases made at the present time are a good investment, even if you do not need the articles for six months or a year to come.

CHESTER BULLOCK,

No. 58 Broadway.

PATENT OFFICES.

MUNN & CO., Editors *Scientific American*, No. 37 Park-row, New-York, have had nearly twenty-five years' experience in obtaining AMERICAN AND EUROPEAN PATENTS. Opinions so charge. A pamphlet 100 pages of law and information free. Address as above.

SQUIER & LANDER, NO. 87 FULTON-ST., New-York, is the best place to buy reliable watches, fine diamonds, choice jewelry and silver ware. Diamonds a specialty.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

ANTHONY TROLLOPE'S NEW STORY,

RALPH, THE HEIR,

WILL APPEAR AS A SUPPLEMENT IN

APPLETONS' JOURNAL,

Commencing with No. 43.

This novel is published from advance sheets purchased from the English publishers, and is furnished GRATIS to all our subscribers, in addition to the large amount of reading matter contained in the Journal. It will be continued from month to month in Supplements

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS.

Sales at the Stock Exchange—JAN. 8, 1870.

FIRST BOARD—10½ A. M.

$3,000 U. S. 6s, '81, C....	117½	27 Fourth N. Bank....	102
14,000 do.....sm	117½	100 Comm. Coal Pf....	32½
10,000 U.S. 5-20 C. '67....	114½	200 do.....bot. call	32½
20,000 U.S. 5-20 C. '68....	114½	100 do.....bot. call	32½
10,000 do.....bd	114½	100 Marquette Pf.....	71½
10,000 do.....bd	114½	100 do.....	71½
500 do.....sm	114	100 Pac. Mail.....	42½
10,000 U.S. 5-20 C. '65....	115½	100 do.....	42½
5,000 U.S. 5s, 10-40 C....	110½	100 do.....	42½
10,000 Tenn. 6s, ex c....	53½	25 do.....	42½
20,000 do.....	53½	100 do.....bot. call	42
10,000 do.....sm	53½	100 Pacific Pf. Scrip c	54½
10,000 Tenn. 6s, ex c....	47½	45 D. & H. Can. 7s....	123
20,000 do.....	47½	100 Wells, Fargo, Ex....	29½
10,000 do.....	47½	45 U. S. Ex.....	61
10,000 do.....bd	47½	100 do.....bot. call	60½
10,000 do.....sm	47½	100 do.....bot. call	60½
11,000 do.....bd	47½	200 N. Y. C. & H. R....	91½
10,000 do.....	47½	100 do.....	92
10,000 do.....sm	47½	200 do.....	91½
10,000 Va. 6s, old C....	40½	100 do.....	91½
7,000 N. Car. 6s, new....	32½	100 do.....	91½
2,000 do.....	32½	100 do.....bot. call	91½
1,000 do.....	32½	100 do.....	91½
1,000 do.....sm	32½	100 Erie.....	19½
10,000 Mo. 6s, ex c....	65½	400 Harlem R.....	140
2,000 Ga. 6s, ex c.....	70	400 Reading.....	94½
10,000 Ka. 6s, Leav. R....	31½	200 do.....	95
10,000 do.....bd	31½	100 do.....bot. call	95
4,000 do.....bot. call	32	100 do.....bot. call	95
1,000 N. Y. Sh. 7s, R....	100	100 L. S. & M. S. R....	87½
1,000 do.....	100	200 do.....	87½
500 do.....bot. call	100	100 do.....	87½
4,000 N. Y. Cen. 6s, '77	104	200 do.....bot. call	88
2,000 N. Y. Cen. 6s, '78	104	200 do.....	88½
1,000 do.....bot. call	104	100 Clev. & Pitts.....	90½
1,000 N. Y. Cen. 6s, '83	106	100 Chi. & N. W.....pf	71
10,000 Mich. S. & N. I. 7s	44	100 do.....	71½
1,000 Mich. Cen. R. R.		100 do.....	71½
2,000 do.....	91½	100 do.....	71½
2,000 do.....	91½	100 do.....bot. call	71½
1,000 do.....bot. call	91½	100 do.....	71½
1,000 N. Y. Cen. 7s, R....	104	100 do.....	71½
1,000 do.....	104	100 do.....	71½
1,000 Mich. Cen. 7s, R....	104	100 do.....	71½
2,000 do.....	104	200 do.....	71½
1,000 Mich. Sou. & N. I. 7s	91	200 Chi. & N. W. Pf....	84½
2,000 do.....	91	100 do.....	84½
1,000 do.....bot. call	91	100 do.....	84½
1,000 N. Y. Cen. 7s, R....	104	100 do.....	84½
1,000 do.....	104	100 do.....	84½
1,000 Mich. Cen. 7s, R....	104	100 do.....	84½
1,000 do.....	104	100 do.....	84½
1,000 Mich. Sou. & N. I. 7s	91	100 do.....	84½
1,000 do.....	91	100 do.....	84½
1,000 do.....bot. call	91

FINANCIAL.

SOUTHERN CENTRAL RAILROAD OF NEW-YORK.
FIRST MORTGAGE
THIRTY-YEAR SEVEN PER CENT. CONVERTIBLE SINKING FUND BONDS.
FOR SALE BY
VERMILYE & CO.,
BANKERS,
NOS. 44 AND 46 NASSAU-ST., NEW-YORK.

BOWLES BROTHERS & CO.,
BANKERS.
Paris, No. 11 Rue de la Paix; New-York, No. 19 Wall-st. Issue Commercial and Travelers' Credits available in all parts of the world. Issue bills on Paris and the Union Bank of London to enable persons to use the same of credit for travel abroad, available throughout the world. Letters to their care for travelers registered on receipt and delivery. Agents for the Times in Europe.

STATE OF TENNESSEE
PAST DUE COUPONS BOUGHT BY
ELEY & BOBO,
No. 41 Pine-st., New-York.

G. E. WOOD,
NO. 32 NASSAU-ST.
OFFERS FOR SALE
$95,000 LOUISIANA PENITENTIARY 7 PER CENT. BONDS AT 70.
$50,000 CITY OF NEW-ORLEANS 7 PER CENT. BONDS AT 75 AND INTEREST.
ALL PAYABLE IN NEW-YORK.

THE FOLLOWING NOTICE HAS been sent to the President of the Stock Exchange by the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company:
PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 12, 1869.
To the President of the Stock Exchange, New-York:
SIR: To comply with the third article of June by-laws, I hereby give you notice of our intention to issue $1,500,000 of convertible seven per cent. bonds, free of taxes, which we have negotiated at par, without commission. One-half of said bonds are convertible at any time after their issue, and the other half after Jan. 1, 1872.
These purchasers are required to take the bonds as follows, viz.:
1,500,000 January, 1870. } Convertible after issue.
1,000,000 July 15, 1870.
1,000,000 Jan. 15, 1871.
1,000,000 Jan. 15, 1872, as required, on 60 days notice. } Convertible after Jan. 1, 1872.
The object of this issue of bonds is to provide the means to complete several branch roads in course of construction, to provide additional rolling stock and the necessary equipment to enable the Company to avail itself of the enlargement of coal new engine houses, siding, &c.
I believe the foregoing information is in strict accordance with your by-laws. Very respectfully, (Signed) FRANKLIN B. GOWEN, President.

OFFICE OF WELLS, FARGO & COMPANY,
NO. 61 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK, Dec. 28, 1869.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the stockholders of Wells, Fargo & Company will be closed on the 15th day of January, at 3 o'clock P. M., to enable the Company to ascertain who are owners of the stock of the old Ten Million Capital. The transfer of this stock will be entitled to participate in the distribution of assets to be made by the agreement with the Pacific Express Company.
The transfer books will be opened on the 21st day of January, at 10 o'clock A. M., after which time the $4,000,000 new stock will be delivered.
Notice is also given that the transfer books of the Company will be closed on the 20th day of January, 1870, at 3 o'clock P. M., for the purpose of holding the annual election for Directors of this Company. The books will be reopened on the 7th day of February, at 10 o'clock A. M. GEORGE K. OTIS, Secretary.

FOURTH NATIONAL BANK OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 11, 1869.
THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this bank will be held at the banking house, No. 187 Broadway, on the second TUESDAY in January, (11th prox.) between the hours of 12 M. and 1 P. M.
ANTHONY HALSEY, Cashier.

OFFICE OF THE DRY DOCK, EAST BROADWAY AND BATTERY RAILROAD COMPANY,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 30, 1869.
THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this Company, and for Inspectors of said election, will be held on TUESDAY, 11th January, 1870, at the office of the Company, Avenue D and 12th-st. Polls open from 12 to 1 o'clock P. M. Transfer books will be closed until 12th January.
RICHARD KELLY, Secretary.

OFFICE METROPOLITAN GASLIGHT COMPANY,
BROADWAY, CORNER 42D-ST.,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 31, 1869.
THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE stockholders of the Metropolitan Gaslight Company for the election of Directors, will be held at this office on MONDAY, Jan. 10, 1870. Polls open from 11 A. M. to 4 P. M.
WM. MEIKLEHAM, Secretary.

OFFICE NEW-YORK FLOATING DRY DOCK CO.,
NO. 254 SOUTH-ST.,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 21, 1869.
THE ANNUAL ELECTION ON THIS Company for the election of nine Directors and three Inspectors of Election will be held at the Company's office on TUESDAY, Jan. 11, 1870, between the hours of 12 and 1 o'clock P. M. The transfer books will be closed from Jan. 6 to the 12th.
H. V. MASON, Secretary.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK,
7TH-ST., CORNER 4TH-AV., NEW-YORK, Jan. 7, 1870.
ELECTION FOR FOUR YEAR DIRECTORS.—The five gentlemen to take the places of Riley A. Brick, Cornelius S. Agnew, Theodore M. Adams and Horace Winans, whose term of office has expired, will be held MONDAY, Jan. 10, between the hours of 6 and 10 P. M.
L. BOLTON RANGE, Recording Secretary.

MERCHANTS' NATIONAL BANK,
NEW-YORK, Jan. 11, 1870.
THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this Bank will be held at the Banking House, No. 187 Broadway, on the SECOND TUESDAY in January, (11th prox.) between the hours of 12 M. and 1 P. M.
JOHN T. HILL, Cashier.

THE CHATHAM NATIONAL BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 31, 1869.
THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this Bank will be held at the banking house on TUESDAY, the 11th day of January next, between the hours of 12 M. and 1 o'clock P. M.
E. HAMILTON, Cashier.

THE NINTH NATIONAL BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 10, 1869.
THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this Bank will be held at the banking house, No. 263

THE INCENDIARY'S TORCH.

WHY MEN BURN THEIR HOUSES.

The Insurance Companies Mainly Responsible for the Crime—Illustrations from Daily Life.

Under the operation of existing laws, rigidly enforced, and their execution, aided by a thorough investigation into the causes of all fires of an apparently incendiary origin, the crime of arson is becoming less frequent in the Metropolitan District. Since the establishment of the Fire Marshal's Bureau, every fire, whatever its cause, has been closely examined into, and where anything of a suspicious character was ascertained, the alleged guilty parties have been made to undergo the ordeal of a judicial investigation. In some cases indictment has followed, and eventually State Prison has been the punishment for a number of this class of evil-doers. When detection is so certain to follow the commission of the crime, its recurrence must continually grow more infrequent. The officers charged with the duty of investigating into the origin of fires are almost daily becoming better skilled, by experience, in the performance of their duties, and now it is almost impossible that the commission of this offence of arson should fail of detection.

While, however, these officers have been vigilant in the discovery of the crime after it has been committed, parties most interested in the prevention of the offence have not been so earnest as they should have been. It is true in this, as in other offences, that there is no crime without a motive.

THE MOTIVE.

Incendiaries are not always of a murderous nature, and do not set fire to a house for the purpose of destroying or endangering life. They commit the crime of arson for pecuniary gain, in the great majority of cases, and hope, by the destruction of property, to obtain from the insurance company the amount, or a portion thereof, for which the property was insured. They effect an insurance, in the majority of cases, with the premeditated design of defrauding the Underwriters whenever a good opportunity shall occur, and when the time comes they are often careless whether their crime involves the loss or endangering of human life or not. They apply the torch, wait to see it well kindled, and then hasten to secure evidence for an *alibi*. If the fire accomplishes the purpose intended, and the property is consumed, the incendiary is satisfied; if it does more, and imperils or destroys life, the criminal considers the unfortunate ending one of the accidents for which he ought not to be held responsible. And so tender-hearted have our juries become when called on to pass upon the crime of arson in the first degree, that the probabilities are that the criminal will escape the doom he so richly merits. The chances of escape from severe punishment are greater with the incendiary than with the murderer or robber, and the profits of a successful result are often larger.

AN INCENTIVE TO CRIME

is in the majority of cases offered by insurance companies. These institutions offer a premium to the wrong doer by the lax manner in which they discharge their duties. A man applies to the Company for an insurance upon his property. The ordinary course is for the officers of the Company to send the Surveyor to examine the premises. If the property is contained in a store the Surveyor should ascertain, from personal observation, the amount of the stock and fixtures and estimate their value, as nearly as possible, and should also know something of the nature of the building in which the property is located. Having satisfied himself on these points he makes his report, accompanied by a diagram of the situation. If the officers of the Company see no objection, a policy is issued and the property is insured. If the Surveyor performs his duty thoroughly there is little danger of the Company being defrauded, or of the insured having very strong motives for dishonest practices. But if the Company's officer is lax in the discharge of his duties to such an extent as to give an opportunity to the assured for the practice of fraud, it is very likely that the crime of arson will follow if the motive is great enough to warrant the risk.

Insurance is often effected upon property, the value of which is by no means as great as the amount for which it is insured. In these cases the applicant states a falsehood when he seeks insurance, the Company's Surveyor neglects to thoroughly inform himself respecting the property, the policy is made out, the premium paid, and the assured feels certain that if his premises are burned he will be able to recover almost the entire amount for which he has paid the premium. Under these circumstances he is careless concerning the safety of his premises, and in the course of time they take fire and burn. The insured makes out a proof of his loss, and by dint of hard swearing swells the grand total to an amount as near the face of the policy as he can, and presents it to the Company. The officers have no means of ascertaining how truthful the statements are, and probably settle with the insured on the basis of his allegations. If the Surveyor had performed his duty, the officers of the Company would doubtless have had evidence sufficient to have enabled them to dispute the claim, and have forced a settlement on a more equitable basis.

ILLUSTRATIONS.

A short time ago a company in this City was applied to by a person carrying on a small business on the east side of the City, for insurance. The Company's Surveyor was sent to the store and made a cursory examination, finding that the stock and fixtures were worth in the neighborhood of $800. The proprietor stated that he intended to increase his stock, and asked for an insurance of $1,000. Strange as it may seem, the application was recommended by the Surveyor, and a policy was issued by the Company. It is almost needless to say that the property was burned not many months after. The circumstances attending the fire were suspicious, and the man was arrested, but after a protracted investigation no positive proof was adduced against him, and he was discharged by the Magistrate.

In another case a policy for $1,500 was issued to a party who had but $400 worth of property in his premises. The Surveyor passed it, the Company eagerly grasped at the premium, and the property was burned. An investigation followed, which resulted in the discharge of the man for want of evidence; but he had not the assurance to demand the amount for which he was insured, and suddenly left the City.

Instances are on record where agents of companies have been allowed to survey the risks they solicited. In these cases the temptation on the part of the agent to deceive the Company is great and cannot be withstood. Policies have been written for amounts much larger than the value of the property, and in case of fire the companies would, in all probability, be sadly victimized. Occasionally a fire occurs, and then the truth comes out, but no profit is taken by the lesson taught, the companies declaring that they cannot find time to have such "trifling" risks thoroughly examined.

Companies are the first to raise

THE CRY OF FRAUD

when a fire occurs in premises where the loss is fully covered by insurance. The fact that the insured is entirely protected by his policy is considered almost convincing proof, in the estimation of the officers of the Company, that the victim of the fire has been guilty of fraud in procuring his policy. If the circumstances under which the fire originated are such as to effectually disprove an allegation of arson, the claim is resisted to the utmost. The companies put the party to almost endless trouble, cripple him at a time when he needs every cent of his just claim, and finally, perhaps, compromise with him under circumstances highly injurious to his credit. These are exceptions, it is true, but in the majority of instances the insured stands a far better chance of prompt settlement if his loss is greatly in excess of his insurance, than if the two were about equally proportioned.

Companies which are most eager to secure business are those which should be avoided. These institutions pay high commissions to agents, are careless as to the character of the risks they take, trust entirely to the representations made without taking the trouble to have the property properly surveyed, and when they meet with a loss by fire do their best to wriggle out of paying it, even though in doing so they damage the reputation of the person insured. These are the companies in which agents can most readily parcel out risks which are deemed so hazardous that they will not be taken entirely by more scrupulous companies.

THE REMEDY

for this state of things lies with the companies. The Board of Underwriters should take action in the premises by establishing stringent rules for the government of all companies associated in the Board, and then see that these rules are rigidly enforced. No risk should be taken unless it has been thoroughly surveyed, and even then the assured ought to be required to assume a certain percentage of the loss himself. If a property owner finds that he cannot obtain insurance under any circumstances for more than say seventy-five per cent. of the value of his goods or premises he will not be likely to destroy his property or suffer it to be destroyed by carelessness when he is certain to lose twenty-five per cent. of it himself. This plan would tend to lessen the motive for arson, and as that is decreased the crime will diminish.

THE LOEB WHISKY FRAUDS.

A Bit of History Revived—How the Thirty-third-Street Distillery was Run—Infamous Plot to Injure a Government Official.

Among the great whisky conspiracies which have been suppressed by the Government, that of the LOEB BROTHERS took a very prominent part on account of the magnitude of its operations, and the secrecy and skill with which the latter were conducted. The distillery in which the alleged frauds were perpetrated, was located at the corner of Thirty-third-street and Tenth-avenue, its ostensible owner being one THOMAS F. RAY, now a fugitive in Europe. RAY's name was only used, however, to keep the real proprietors from being known. The latter were composed of three wealthy brothers named CHARLES, AUGUSTUS and MASON LOEB, who supplied the capital with which the distillery was carried on, and who were the virtual owners. The distillery was not seized until July last, but was under official surveillance for a long time previous to that event. One of the incidents which preceded the seizure by several months, and which was conspicuously connected with the history of the distillery, was the arrest of a Federal officer named FARNHAM Z. TUCKER on a charge of blackmail. The complainant in the case was RAY, and the reason for his action, as was publicly alleged at the time, was to prevent a counter charge being made against him by TUCKER for offering bribes. TUCKER, the defendant in the case, was employed as storekeeper at the warehouse attached to the LOEB BROTHERS' distillery. He was appointed to the place in December, 1868, by the Supervisor of Internal Revenue in this City. It was a part of his duty to watch for frauds in the distillery, and it was believed, judging from the high reputation which he bore for honesty and integrity, that he would perform such duty in an impartial and conscientious manner, despite the glittering inducements which might be held out to him to act differently. His selection was found to be an excellent one for the Government, but was bad for the distillers, who, it is claimed, made three different attempts to bribe him, without success. The facts in regard to the alleged attempts at bribery were promptly communicated to Supervisor DUTCHER at the time they were made, and the latter subsequently recommended TUCKER to bring the matter to the notice of the United States District-Attorney. The representations made by TUCKER were to the effect that RAY came to him on one occasion, while he was engaged in stamping distilled spirits in the warehouse connected with the distillery, and that he placed $200 in his pocket; that after he found the bribe he endeavored to return it to RAY, but that the latter would not accept it, saying that he knew nothing about it. TUCKER further averred that $200 was put in his pocket on another occasion under similar circumstances, and that he made efforts to return the last-named amount to RAY, as he had done the former, the result being the same in both instances. A third attempt was made to bribe TUCKER, it is alleged, at a time when he was occupied in writing at his desk. This time TUCKER saw the money put in his pocket, and he took it out almost immediately and threw it after RAY while he was in the act of passing through the door, the latter stopping to pick it up before going out. After this last occurrence TUCKER was advised to carry the matter before the District-Attorney, for which purpose he procured the legal services of Mr. ROBERT D. BENEDICT. TUCKER's story was then detailed to the District-Attorney, who decided that there was good ground for criminal action against RAY. On the same day, however, RAY made his appearance at the District-Attorney's office, evidently having had premature notice of TUCKER's intention from some surreptitious source, and proceeded to charge TUCKER with attempted bribery. During the examination which afterwards followed before Commissioner OSBORNE, testimony was introduced for the prosecution which directly contradicted the statements made by TUCKER, and which caused one prominent lawyer to remark at the time that it was the grossest case of perjury he had ever witnessed.

Among the witnesses produced by RAY were two employes of his distillery, who both deposed that they had overheard TUCKER demand money from RAY, and that they had seen the latter comply with the request. In giving his evidence a serious blunder was made by the first employe, however, in swearing that he alone saw the money handed to TUCKER, for which he was obliged to look through a small hole in the painted glass door opening into RAY's office. The next witness also asserted that he was looking through the hole in question simultaneously with the first witness, and that he also saw the money transaction; and, in order to have the first employe agree with the second, the former was recalled, and was made to testify that he was in error in stating that no one but himself looked through the glass and saw the money given, and that he had since remembered that there was another person looking with him. For the defence, Mr. BURNDICT conclusively demonstrated that the hole in the glass was not large enough to admit two persons seeing through it at the same time; also that it had been patched since the commencement of the case for the purpose of making it larger, besides showing that his client had strenuously declined bribes instead of asking for them. TUCKER's statements were used to show that the distillery had been the scene of frequent illicit whisky operations, and that much tubs were often run off in less time than the law allowed. On the entrance of Judge PIERREPONT into office the case was dismissed on the ground that the complainant declined to appear and prosecute the matter any further. It was partially on Tucker's information that the distillery was confiscated, and that criminal proceedings were commenced against RAY and the LOEB BROTHERS. RAY, as already announced, is now in Europe, but it may be agreeable for him to know that the $800 which he attempted to force on Mr. TUCKER is now in the hands of the Safe Deposit Company, where it has been awaiting a claimant for several months past.

An Intelligent Verdict by a Jersey Jury.

Coroner GEARE, of Hoboken, held an inquest yesterday afternoon on the body of THOMAS TRAVERS, who died at St. Mary's Hospital, from lockjaw, resulting from injuries received by the smash up of a gravel train on the Morris and Essex Railroad.

The jury, after being out some time, came in with the following verdict:

"That he died from lockjaw, and the conductor of the train was to blame for it."

Coroner GEARE declined to accept the verdict, and suggested that the following was probably about what they ought to say, which the intelligent jury assented to:

"That THOMAS TRAVERS came to his death from lockjaw, superinduced by injuries received from the upsetting of a gravel car on the Morris and Essex Railroad, at Drakesville, on the 24th of December, and they censure the conductor, —— BUSCH, for causing the accident by running the train at an unusual rate of speed."

The Metropolitan Police Mutual Aid Association.

Sergeant WILLIAM H. LEFFERTS, President of the Metropolitan Police Mutual Aid Association, has submitted his annual report for the twelve months ending Jan. 8, 1870, from which it appears that the sum of $23,420 was collected from members, and duly paid over to the families of twenty-three deceased members. The receipts for contingent fund were $600 75, of which $210 20 was expended for printing, stationery, &c., leaving a balance of $390 55 in the Treasurer's hands. The Association has lost twenty-six members by death during the past year. The President congratulates the members of the Association upon the success they have attained. It has nearly reclaimed all the ground lost by the late Burke affair, and now, on the death of a member, the widow and orphan children receive more than $1,000. They number 1,372 members, and the Association has $20,000 invested in stocks. There were nine deaths during the past quarter, during which time there was collected $4,725, and disbursed as follows: To the children of JOHN MCINTYRE, Eighteenth Precinct, $901; to the father of DENNIS O'KEEFE, Fourth Precinct, $1,010; to the widow of JAMES KIERNAN, Sanitary Company, $1,001; to the widow of JOHN ARNOUX, First Court Squad, $1,001.

BRIEF TRIALS.

Charges of the Locomotive Builders—Messrs. Fisk and Gould in Court on a Charge of Conspiracy.

Under an indictment charging them and others with conspiracy to defraud the Eagles Locomotive Company, of Paterson, by excessive charges for transportation of locomotives, Messrs. JAMES FISK, Jr., and JAY GOULD yesterday made their appearance in Court, in that city, and gave bonds in the sum of $5,000 each to appear and answer to the charges during the ensuing April term. In view of the recent indignation meetings, and the endless talk among the people of Paterson on the subject of excessive freight and poor accommodations, the announcement that "Prince Erie" and his distinguished coadjutor were in town, and at Court, was sufficient to call together within the judicial precincts a goodly crowd of honest Jerseymen, eager to catch a glimpse of the two scotched, the very head and front of Erie's offending. With them, under the indictment, they saw come into Court Messrs. W. M. and C. V. KASSON, proprietors of the Union Locomotive Express. All four pleaded "not guilty," and gave bonds, as above stated, Messrs. PHILIP BARRETT and SAMUEL SMITH becoming sureties. The indictment, which is quite lengthy, charges the accused with having conspired to rob and injure the Eagles Locomotive and Machine Company, of Paterson, by obtaining illegal fees and charges for transporting their locomotives over the Erie Railroad, by means of a combination which raised the price from $50 to $400 per locomotive. The increased cost thus entailed upon the company, one year, during the year 1869 shipped from Paterson over 350 locomotives, was so great as to drive them to take refuge in the law, and hence the action. The Messrs. KASSON are the proprietors of the Kissons' Union Locomotive Express, and have an office in Paterson, directly opposite the depot, employing, on an average, five or six locomotives thence per week. Owing to the magnitude of the interests involved, and the large number of hands employed by them, and consequently, in sympathy with the manufacturers, the proceedings occasion no little interest in Paterson, and the result will be watched for with eagerness. Messrs. FISK and GOULD returned to New-York by the 4 o'clock train.

The three hundred suits against the Erie Company, brought by citizens of Paterson for excessive charges on freight, will probably come up next week. A lively fight is anticipated.

The Doctrines of the Jewish Reformers—An Interesting Lecture by Dr. Ellinger.

Dr. M. ELLINGER, editor of the *Jewish Times* delivered a very interesting lecture last evening before the Longfellow Literary Association, in the hall of the Young Men's Christian Association, corner of Fourth-avenue and Twenty-third-street, on the conclusion arrived at in the late "Rabbinical Conference" at Philadelphia. Movements have been heretofore inaugurated by the more liberal and enlightened Jews with a view of bringing the observances and avowed doctrines of their religion more into harmony with the spirit of the present age. Conventions for this purpose have been held in Berlin, Frankfort and other German cities, and many advanced ideas on the subject put forth, but it has been found almost impossible to overcome the obstinate prejudices and superstitions of the people sufficiently to bring the reforms into practice in the synagogues. The late conference in America went beyond all its predecessors in the thoroughness of the reforms proposed and the liberal basis which it set forth as the foundation of reformed Judaism. The resolutions of this body formed the text of Dr. ELLINGER's remarks.

The old orthodoxy of the Jews he characterized as a mummy of the past which must be discarded for a liberal and enlightened religion which is in full accord with the civilization of the day. It enjoins a belief in the inspiration of the Scriptures, and a strict observance of all the requirements of the ancient law, but the reformers deny all supernatural revelation, and inculcate a belief in the God of nature and the God of humanity. They regard the whole past history of the race as a revelation of God, and the events of the present as the best book in which to study his attributes. The whole history of the Jewish religion proves that it has continuously and gradually doing away with old laws, and making new, and what was orthodoxy in ancient days or in the Middle Ages may be absurdity now. The first declaration of the Rabbi in the late conference was that the object of their religion was not the restoration of the Hebrew nation under the kingship of the House of David, as had been taught for so many ages, but the extension of the belief in one God, the Supreme Ruler of nature, over the whole face of the earth. They no longer regard the destruction of this nation and the dispersion of its people as a Divine dispensation for the punishment of their sins but as imposing on them the grand mission of spreading the religion of the only true God over the face of the whole earth. Formerly they looked for a Messiah who should gather and a final restoration to the heritage of Israel in Palestine, and thus preserved their individuality and their religion in spite of persecutions and all the convulsions and changes which had disturbed the established nations. Now they have come to the conclusion that scatterers with others, and it is time to discard their ancient notions and work in harmony with the times, and so exert their full share of influence in the reforms and improvements of the day. The old prophets, in their predictions of a Messiah, alluded to the mission of the Jews as a nation among the nations of the earth, and the human race is the true Messiah. In matters of worship, the reformers propose to discard all prayers and ceremonies founded on the idea of animal sacrifices, and to introduce the vernacular language of the people in all the exercises of the synagogue. They also recognize the equal position of women, and the validity and importance of the modern enactments on the subject of marriage and divorce. In fact, nearly all the declarations of the reformers are fully in harmony with the most enlightened thought of the age, and deserving the attention of reflecting men.

Lectures in Aid of Destitute ex-Soldiers.

The first of a series of six lectures, to be given under the auspices of Post Phil. Kearney No. 8, Grand Army of the Republic, for the relief of disabled soldiers and sailors, took place at Irving Hall, last evening. There was a large audience in attendance. Previous to the lecture, Col. GEO. E. JARVIS, commander of Post Phil. Kearney, introduced "Doesticks," (Mr. MORTIMER THOMPSON,) who proceeded to read an original poem, humorously illustrating the subject of fat men, fat babies and fat things generally. A part was devoted to the interest of the poor ex-soldiers, who were said to be suffering and starving while the people who made them got of the war were living on the fat of the land. The poem created considerable mirth. Mr. THOMPSON was followed by Hon. HORACE GREELEY, who entertained the assemblage with his popular and soul-stirring lecture entitled "Self-made Men," which has been heretofore reported in these columns.

Labor Meetings Last Night.

The Cigar Makers are still on strike. One firm, however, has given in to the demands of the Society, and will resume work at the old rates on Monday. The men who are out of work receive $7, single men, and $10 married men, per week. The Workingmen's Union passed a resolution last night to give them aid in money, if necessary.

The German Cigar Makers' Benefit Society received $100 last night. They give a ball on the 21st inst.

The practical journeymen bakers held their quarterly meeting last night, at No. 520 Seventh-st. They report $160 50 received, and ten members admitted for the quarter ending 18th December last.

The journeymen tailors met last evening at No. 52 Bleecker-street, and elected officers, viz.: President, JACOB SCHUMANN; Vice-President, GEORGE GARNOLD; Corresponding Secretary, HENRY LUCKEN; Financial Secretary, JOSEPH KRESS. They report having received $1,901 60 for the quarter ending 31st December.

Reported Express Robbery—$21,000 in Bonds Missing.

From the Washington Chronicle, Jan. 7.

It was said a few days since that a package containing bonds to the value of $21,000 was unaccountably missing in the Washington office of Adams Express Company. The facts seem to be that the bonds were sent by a Boston firm, to be delivered to the Treasury Department and exchanged for registered bonds. As the package was sent on private account, it was not delivered at the branch office of the Company in the Treasury Department, but locked up in the safe at the general office on last Sunday morning. It appears that the package was checked off the books, but as it has not been delivered, the Company is unable to account for it.

The Superintendent of the Washington office was busily engaged in investigating the case yesterday, still his researches have thus far been unsuccessful. He entertains the opinion, however, that the package has not been stolen, but misent, that is, sent away to another point with other express matter.

LOCAL NEWS IN BRIEF.

NEW-YORK.

WM. C. DAVIES was assigned before Justice DOWLING yesterday on the complaint of Colonel THOMAS B. VAN BUREN, of No. 23 Wall-street, who stated that the prisoner obtained $5 from him under pretence of being a distant relative, and destitute of means to proceed on his journey home. As DAVIES has been swindling citizens in this city for several months, the Magistrate remanded him for trial.

Additional evidence was taken before Commissioner OSBORNE, yesterday, in the case of JULIUS KNAPP, charged with intent to defraud the Government in executing a fraudulent cigar manufacturer's bond. The testimony showed that the prisoner did not possess any real estate or personal property of any considerable amount at the time he signed the bond, which was for $1,500, besides proving that he persuaded one ROSENBERG to forge the name of one HUBBE, of No. 1 Essex-street, to the said bond. Assistant District-Attorney JACKSON conducted the prosecution.

On and after Friday, Jan. 14, the library of the College of the City of New-York will be kept open from 8 A. M. to 10 P. M. every Friday.

On the announcement of the transfer of Justice LEDWITH from the Second to the Third District Police Court, on Thursday, Mr. Justice COX took his seat on the Bench of the Second (Jefferson Market) District. His clerks are Messrs. HOUGHTALIN and GOLDEY. Baron SCHLEICHED is retained as interpreter. Judge LEDWITH will preside next week at Essex Market Court, and he will be succeeded in the Jefferson Market Police Court by Judge SHANDLEY.

A singular coincidence in death occurred during the week in this City. On Tuesday Mrs. JANE WAINWRIGHT, aged 69, was found dead in her bed at No. 18 Thomas-street, life having been apparently extinct for over two days. Yesterday morning ROBERT WAINWRIGHT, the husband, aged 80 years of age, was also found dead in his bed, Coroner FLYNN investigated both cases, and ascertained death had resulted from natural causes.

A correspondent suggests that the dangerous naphtha or gasoline, with which benzene is almost invariably mixed, can easily be got rid of by simply placing the can or jar of kerosene, cork out, in boiling water in the open air for an hour or so, when the heat of the water will have evaporated or dispelled the dangerous element.

Dr. WM. S. LANDSBERG lectured on the social and political relations of women, before the German Reading Society, at No. 200 Third-avenue, last evening. He stated that the so-called woman question had arisen from the demand for good women. The class of lost women had its origin in dissipation on the part of the men, and in poverty and luxury on their own part. This evil could be eradicated by a greater diffusion of education and material prosperity—education and property being both safeguards of morality. The suffrage was no absolute right, but only a matter of expediency. By the suffrage women would lose their good qualities, which society had a right to demand they should maintain for its benefit.

FRANCISCO ZEPADO, a Cuban, of No. 103 Park-street, quarrelled last night at No. 14 Baxter-street with a Chinaman named HENRY LEWIS. MARY LEWIS, the wife, interfered, when ZEPADO drew a small butcher's knife, and cut both the Chinaman and his wife in several places. The assailant was arrested by the Sixth Ward Police. None of the wounds are dangerous. The Police Surgeon at Headquarters failed to respond to the call made upon him until near 3 o'clock this morning, a great dereliction of duty on his part. The prisoner will be arraigned before Justice DOWLING during the forenoon.

A slight fire broke out on the second floor of No. 77 Maiden-lane, occupied by JOHN S. LAWSON, dealer in drugs. Damage, $100. Another fire occurred in the boot and shoe store of PATRICK MULLEN, No. 1,837 Third-avenue. Damage, $100; insured in the Pacific.

JOHN BAER, aged 20, died yesterday of injuries sustained on New Year's eve by a fall from his wagon.

JACOB STUERNROTH, of No. 130 Avenue C, was crushed to death yesterday by the machinery of JONES's brewery, at No. 180 Sixth-street.

Two inches was the depth of the snow yesterday. The weather at midnight set in clear and cold.

Rev. WM. H. MILBURN will discourse on "What a Blind Man Saw in England," in the hall of the Young Men's Christian Association, on Tuesday evening, Jan. 25, for the benefit of the mission work of St. Ann's Church for Deaf Mutes.

The National Land Company of this City, (agents for the sale of Kansas and Pacific Railway lands,) have just sold 45,000 acres of agricultural land situated near Abelene, Kansas, to a Scotch Emigration Association at Glasgow. The emigrants will leave Scotland during the months of February and March. The sale of the land amounted to $135,000, being at an average rate of $3 00 an acre.

The flags were hoisted on the City Hall yesterday, in commemoration of the battle of New-Orleans.

Yesterday an attachment was issued against MORITZ KRYELMAN by Judge BLANCHFORD for failing to appear before Commissioner SHIELDS as a witness in the Huffman distillery case. It is believed that inducements have been held out to him to keep away from the examination.

The examination in the case of LAZOR and KAMPER, two men charged with robbing a Frenchman in his carriage by means of a pretending Custom House officer, was again adjourned by Commissioner SHIELDS, yesterday, owing to the non-attendance of an ex-Secret Service officer named DYE. The latter's testimony is represented to be important and necessary for the defence, but he has absented himself at present, as he is now in Canada, in connection with the Caldwell extradition case.

During last week 113 males and 427 females were provided with situations by the Free Labor and Intelligence Bureau, in Ninth-street. The number of applicants for employment was composed of 332 males and 604 females.

United States Attorney-General HOAR appeared as counsel in a patent suit in the Circuit Court, before Judge BLATCHFORD yesterday, and attracted considerable attention.

The members of the Cooper Union Literary Club will debate the subject of Free Trade and Protection in the large hall of the Institute, on Monday evening.

The members of the "Brennan Coterie" intend giving their annual ball at the Academy of Music on Wednesday evening, and great preparations are in progress for the interesting event. This famous social organization is always successful in their efforts to assemble a select party of their innumerable friends, and the coming year bids fair to eclipse all its predecessors.

EBENEZER PROTHINGHAM, a carpenter employed on a new building in One Hundred and Twenty-fourth-street, near Sixth-avenue, accidentally fell from a window to the ground, a distance of thirty feet, and was instantly killed. Coroner FLYNN will hold an inquest at the residence of the family at No. 350 West Eighteenth-street.

The vital statistics of last week for this City (exclusive of the public institutions on the islands) were: Deaths, 540; marriages, 96; births, 969; still births, 34. The mortality was unusually great, owing, probably, to the damp and stormy weather of the week.

PATRICK HOGAN was severely injured yesterday morning while at work laying Croton pipe in Tenth-avenue, near One Hundred and Sixtieth-street, by a derrick falling upon him. He was taken to Bellevue Hospital.

FRANK STANDER yesterday fell from a street car at the corner of Eighth-avenue and Twenty-eighth-street, breaking his right leg. He was taken to St. Vincent Hospital by the Police.

MARGARET HEALEY, 70 years of age, living at No. 251 Third-avenue, was severely injured yesterday by falling when in Third-avenue, near Thirty-eighth-street.

MARGARET JORDAN, 50 years of age, yesterday fell through a coal hole at the corner of Clinton-street and Rutgers-place, and was severely injured. She was taken to her home, No. 243 Madison-street.

BROOKLYN.

The charge recently instituted against Mr. RAYMOND S. PERRIN for "stealing" lumber from an East New-York dealer appears to have been utterly unfounded, and the result was the prompt dismissal of the accused when the examination took place. The affidavits against Mr. PERRIN were pure inventions, designed to do him incalculable harm, and the probability is that the complainant will be arrested for perjury.

Mr. ROBERT NELSON, the Supervisor of the Second Ward, had his gold watch and chain, worth $200, stolen while in KENNEDY's saloon, near the Court House, yesterday, by PATRICK NOLAN. Officer MCLAUGHLIN, of the District-Attorney's office, was sent for, and NOLAN being suspected of the theft, was asked if he knew anything of the missing property. He promptly responded, saying that he had taken the watch and chain, and that he had secreted them in an old safe in his room, No. 21 Atlantic-street. The property was found as described, and PATRICK was committed for trial.

A temperance Convention of the Christian Ministers and Laymen of Brooklyn, will be held at the hall of the Young Men's Christian Association, corner of Fulton-avenue and Gelatin-place, to-morrow afternoon, at 2 o'clock.

WM. L. STONE, Esq., will read a paper on the "Buccaneers of America" before the Long Island Historical Society at the Chapel of the Packer Institute on Tuesday evening.

Rev. R. E. TERRY, the new rector of St. John's, will begin his ministrations in that Parish to-day.

The injurious effects of giving and selling to teachers and scholars, during the sessions of Sunday School, tickets for festivals, concerts, or entertainments of any kind, is the subject to be discussed at the monthly meeting of the Sunday School Union on Illinois-place Congregational Church on Monday evening.

The Dental Infirmary, at No. 209 Washington-street, is open for the accommodation of all persons requiring treatment who are poor and not sufficient to enable them to pay for dental services elsewhere.

Mrs. ANN JACKSON, residing at Factoryville, Staten Island, was arrested yesterday on complaint of ROBERT AVERY, who charges that she drew pension money as the widow of THOS. DOGWIN, a soldier killed in the recent war, after having been reported to EDWIN JACKSON, her present husband. She was held in $5,000 to await examination before U. S. Commissioner JONES.

Rev. HENRY WARD BEECHER had a present of $2,000 from his Church at their annual meeting. A good balance for the Church to have, and a good gift for Mr. BEECHER to receive.

The assessment fund in charge of the Board of Trustees of the Widows and Orphans' Fund of the late volunteer Fire Department amounts to $61,300, an increase of $5,300 over the previous year.

Mr. WM. A. FOREY, Brother of the Street Commissioner, was elected President of the Board of City Assessors yesterday.

During the month of December, 1869, 102 eye patients and 97 ear patients were received and treated at the Eye and Ear Infirmary gratuitously.

The Police made 341 arrests last week.

LONG ISLAND.

Friday evening quite a formidable row occurred near the main depot in Flushing. EDWARD FANNING cut the head of EDWARD MULLANY in a very serious manner, and it is feared the death may ensue. FANNING was arrested and locked up.

A meeting of the citizens of Hyerhead was held, yesterday, to take action in reference to the proposed deepening of the Peconic River, below that place. A petition is being prepared to present to Congress asking for an appropriation for that or this object. Riverhead is the county seat of Suffolk County, and the geographical and commercial centre of a large and growing section of country.

A bridge is about being erected across Georgica Pond, situated between East Hampton and Wainscott, which will materially shorten the distance between the two villages. The route has been surveyed, the right of way secured, and $300 and some hundred days' work subscribed towards the construction and the approaches to it. It is contemplated that upon the completion of the Sag Harbor branch of the Long Island Railroad, the mail stage to East Hampton will run from Bridge Hampton through Wainscott, making a shorter and pleasanter route.

A sensation was spoiled in Flushing yesterday by the adjournment of the trial of the Village Clerk on account of malfeasance in office, or in other words, a lucrative quarrel between the outs and the ins of the Board of Trustees of that village. Something rich is promised on both sides.

Rev. Mr. PIERCE, who so mysteriously disappeared last week from West Hampton, has not yet been heard from.

The people along the line of road from Patchogue to Setauket, have taken the $140,000 in first mortgage bonds requisite for the extension of the road from its present terminus at Patchogue to Setauket, running through the villages of Brookhaven, Smithtown and Port Jefferson. The new road will be completed early in the Summer.

On Friday afternoon last, while the work of blasting the rocks in Hell Gate was going on, an accident occurred which instantly killed one of the employes named GEORGE SHIPE, of Astoria. He was struck by a piece of rock and lived but a few minutes after receiving the blow.

WESTCHESTER COUNTY.

Notwithstanding the fact that Justice TAPPEN has modified his injunction in reference to the collection of taxes in the Town of West Farms, in the matter of opening certain avenues, Mr. HAMILTON, the Receiver of Taxes, will decline to make any collections whatsoever, inasmuch as the assessment lists are made out to cover all the improvements, and which, as it is alleged, he has no power to deviate from. Consequently, all improvements and all collections of taxes will be at a stand until the whole subject in litigation shall have been settled.

A lad, whose name could not be ascertained, was knocked down and run over by the fire-engine of Jackson Engine Company No. 4, of Morrisania, on Friday night, and thereby so seriously injured that no hopes of recovery are entertained. The engine, which weighs 3,500 pounds, passed the entire length of his body and face.

NEW-JERSEY.

Friday evening Chief Engineer CARHUFF presented to the Common Council of Newark his annual report. There were in 1869 seventy-four fires and forty-six false alarms. The total loss by fire amounted to $197,098 77, of which $163,319 77 was covered by insurance. There are in service seven steamers, two trucks, and one hose carriage. Thirty new hydrants have been put up in different parts of the city during the past year.

East Newark collected last year taxes amounting to $4,732 89, and paid out $5,728 48. The total amount of assessment for 1869 was $[illegible] 71, leaving $2,[illegible] 00 uncollected for last year.

Yesterday noon, DANIEL P. HARDY, a car driver at Commodore Parry, was run over by a train and got his right foot crushed. Amputation was considered necessary.

A fire broke out yesterday morning in the liquor store of MCLAUGHLIN Bros., in Grand-street, in Jersey City. The flames were extinguished before much damage had been done. The loss did not exceed $300.

At a late hour on Friday night a man named VAN SELLER was arrested in Hudson City on a charge of having abandoned and maltreated his wife. He had taken up quarters with another woman. His wife traced him to his new abode, and with her little children on her arms presented herself before him. This so enraged him that he struck her a blow in the face with his fist and felled her to the ground. Bleeding and cut she appeared before Recorder ALDRIDGE and had issued the warrant under which VAN SELLER was taken in custody.

A Curious Story from Rome.

From the Boston Traveller, Jan. 7.

A correspondent of the *Traveller*, writing from Rome, tells the following remarkable story respecting the early life of the Pope. It is certain that there is some mystery in connection with his taking the vows of the priesthood, and this narrative may help to solve it. Speaking of the appearance of the Pope, who is now a feeble old man, and who must have been a noble specimen of manhood in his youth, the writer says:

"Those who are nearest to him, and who ought to know him well, say he is a very kind-hearted man, but is dreadfully afflicted by his ministers and agents, who ought to do his bidding, but who work for their own worldly purposes. The world at large has not forgotten that fifty or sixty years ago he was engaged to be married to a Miss FORTES, the daughter of an Irish bishop, and the sister of the Countess DE BALZE, famous at that period in Italian society, and that the young lady and her friends waited at the altar after the Church had forbidden Pecucci (near the present Post Office) for Count MASTAI-FERRETTI to appear and complete his marriage vows, and that they waited and waited in vain, because the young Count never came. Nor is the world aware that the explanation given her by her betrothed, that he was the Jesuit relations had forcibly abducted him and sent him abroad under oath of secrecy, which he never divulged till after he was Pope, and that she he continued to be constant to her, to case his own conscience and has broken heart. I mention this because the Pope is now living, and that he and his Jesuit friends may question it or confirm it, as they please. I hold the document of length in my own hand which tells the whole story, and given me by one whom the powerful Count personally knows, and has conversed with and smiled upon since he has occupied the papal throne."

Platform of the New-Hampshire Republicans.

The resolutions adopted by the Republicans of New-Hampshire, at their State Convention in Concord, on Friday, are as follows:

The Republicans of New-Hampshire, in delegate convention assembled, hereby renew and reaffirm their allegiance to the principles of liberty, equality and impartial suffrage, which underlie our republican institutions, and are the hope of the oppressed in every land.

Resolved, That the Administration of President Grant has our hearty approval and highest admiration for the vigor, integrity, and statesmanship which have already brought the prestige of the National Government back to that of the better and purer days of the Republic.

Resolved, That the extinguishment of more than seventy-six millions of the national debt during the first two months of the administration of President GRANT furnishes the surest guarantee that it will continue to administer the affairs of the Government with prudence and wisdom.

Resolved, That the demand of the recent Democratic State Convention for the extension of the United States currency, and the payment of the bonds in gold, is only another form of repudiation, in entire harmony with the character and conduct of the men and party who, at the time of their issue, denounced these bonds as worthless.

Resolved, That the revision of the excise, tariff and all other public taxes should be so adjusted and apportioned as to bear mainly upon luxuries and accumulated wealth, lighest on those dependent upon labor and articles essential to the support and enjoyment of life.

Resolved, That we demand and expect of the General Government the most rigid economy in the public expenditures and finances, integrity and impartiality in the execution of the laws.

Resolved, That we are in favor of the abolition of the franking privilege, and we favor abolishing the enormous expenses consequent upon the publication and distribution of vast quantities of worthless documents and reports.

Resolved, That the speedy restoration of the former relations of any State to the Union, accomplished by force, and followed by a predetermined violation of fundamental conditions of reconstruction, accomplished by violence, bloodshed and any acts of revolution, is null and void, and that, as in the case of Georgia, Congress is bound by appropriate legislation to enforce the conditions of reconstruction, to maintain a republican form of government, and to prevent the murder of white or black citizens by political assassins.

Resolved, That the action of the Democratic Legislature of New-York in rescinding the ratification of the Fifteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, is a blow aimed at imperial suffrage, a step alike subversive of the peace and liberties of the country.

Resolved, That we regard the conduct of the Democratic party, who advocated the rebellion, fought and lost, and surrendered to the victors, by which the rebellion was put down, and peace restored, and the Union saved, and who now, with the rebellion, the emancipation of the slaves, and all the suffering and sorrow caused by the rebellion, with such a record, they have no right to ask or demand any favors at the hands of the people to intrust power and authority to them or the party of which they are a part.

Resolved, That in view of the widespread and alarming increase of intemperance in our State, we hail the revival of the temperance reform as calculated to arrest the evil and create public sentiment to demand a strict enforcement of the laws.

Resolved, That as a Republican Government was founded by the affections and votes of the